SUNDAY
April 5, 2026

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
30 Pages ₹ 8.00

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ON SUNDAY
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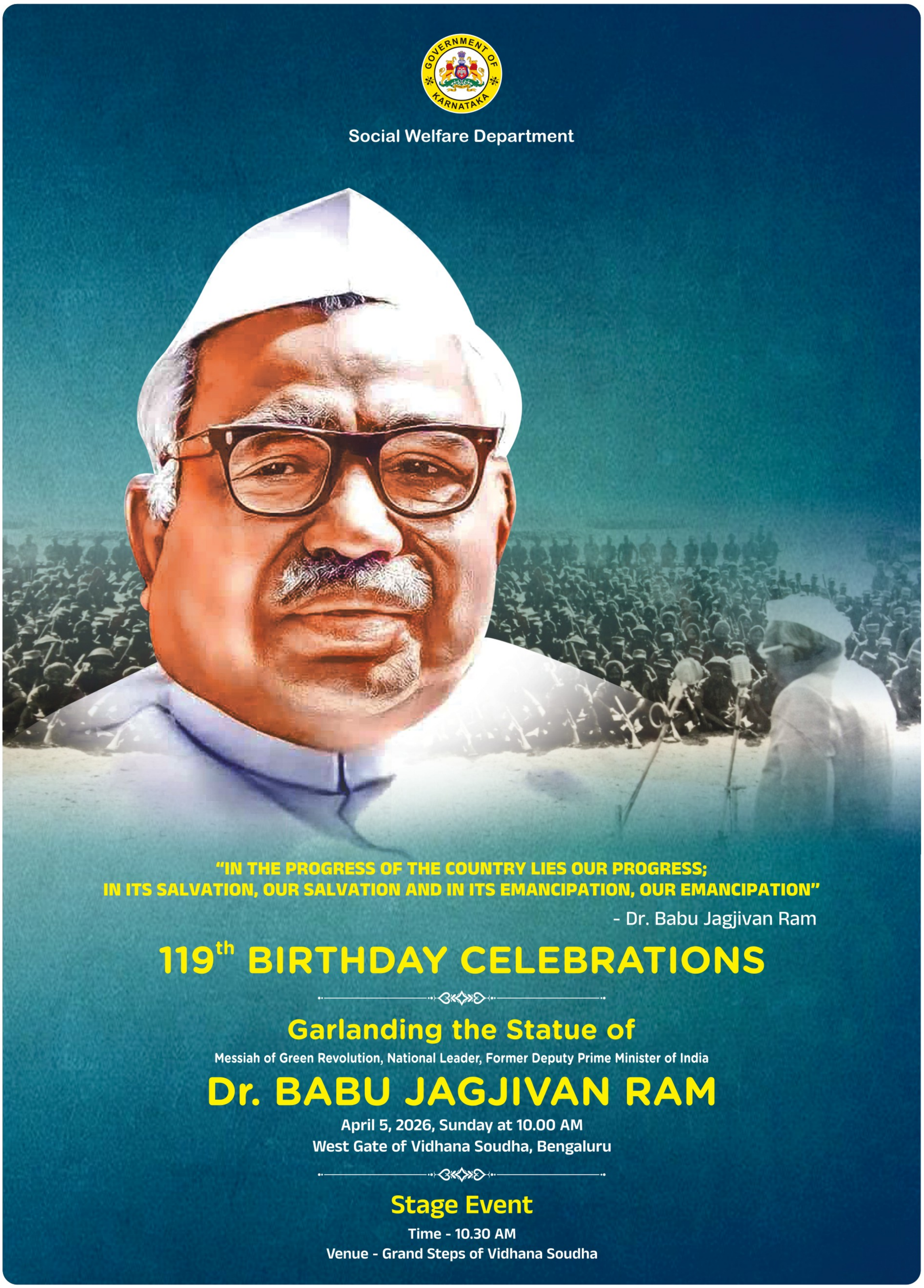
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Social Welfare Department



"IN THE PROGRESS OF THE COUNTRY LIES OUR PROGRESS;
IN ITS SALVATION, OUR SALVATION AND IN ITS EMANCIPATION, OUR EMANCIPATION"

- Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram

119th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Garlanding the Statue of

Messiah of Green Revolution, National Leader, Former Deputy Prime Minister of India

Dr. BABU JAGJIVAN RAM

April 5, 2026, Sunday at 10.00 AM
West Gate of Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

Stage Event

Time - 10.30 AM
Venue - Grand Steps of Vidhana Soudha

As is enshrined in our constitution, **"to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture"** - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Commissioner
Social Welfare Department

Secretary to Government
Social Welfare Department

@SWDGok

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Nearly 12 crore women like me have received safe maternity care
Crores of children like me are getting full nutrition
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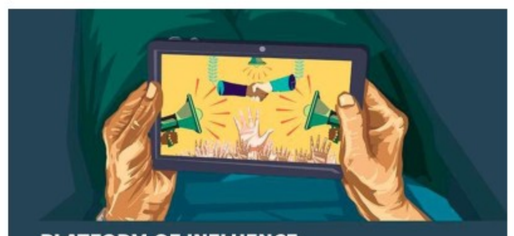

PLATFORM OF INFLUENCE

Shifting from selfies to slogans

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What are the concerns over FCRA?

FAQ » PAGE 15

Artemis II: the mission moon

PROFILES » PAGE 16

Royals pip Titans; Rizvi stars in Capitals' win

SPORT » PAGE 18

All States will benefit from proposed delimitation: PM

Modi seeks to address concerns over the exercise for the first time; government intends to provide definitive guarantee in Parliament, Prime Minister says at a campaign rally in poll-bound Kerala

Varghese K. George
THIRUVALLA

Allaying concerns: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with BJP candidates at a roadshow as part of the campaign for the Kerala Assembly election in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

States that have stabilised their populations will not lose their Lok Sabha seats, and all States will benefit from a proposed increase in the size of the House, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told an election rally in Kerala on Saturday.

The Centre is planning amendments to the Constitution and relevant laws to redraw the electoral map of the country, with the size of the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies to be increased by half, with a third of the total seats reserved for women, ahead of the 2029 general election. Parliament's Budget Session is reconvening on April 16 to consider these amendments.

Mr. Modi was responding for the first time to concerns that States that have stabilised their populations would have their representation in the Lok Sabha reduced after delimitation. The Prime Minister said the government wanted to address these concerns.

"There are States – be it Kerala, Tamil Nadu, or others – that have done exemplary work in the field of population control. However, certain individuals are spreading misinformation, claiming that because their population growth has slowed, their parliamentary seat allocation will be reduced. We intend to provide a definitive guarantee regarding this matter in Parliament during this session. We wish to formally seal this assurance through legislation – ensuring that in no State will the number of Lok Sabha seats be reduced," he said.

Mr. Modi, however, did not specify whether he was referring to the absolute number of seats of individual States or their respective proportion.

Pathanamthitta district, where Mr. Modi spoke, has the lowest Total Fertility Rate – child births per thousand population – in India. At 1.3, the district's TFR is far below the replacement level of 2.1. Southern States have expressed fears that a population-based inter-State redistribution of Lok Sabha seats would disadvantage them.

Mr. Modi was campaigning for BJP candidate Anoop Antony in Thiruvalla, and other candidates from adjoining constituencies.

The existing laws require a fresh delimitation to be done following the Census after 2026.

The Modi government plans to amend the laws in order to start the delimitation exercise right away, and implement it ahead of the 2029 elections.

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RELATED REPORTS ON » PAGES 7 & 11

Indian refiners are procuring Iranian crude, says Centre

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Crude tracks

The move marks a reversal from 2019, when India stepped away from purchasing Iranian crude following U.S. sanctions

- Indian companies have 'full flexibility' to source oil from different sources, says Centre
- India currently imports crude oil from over 40 countries
- **No payment hurdle for Iranian crude imports, says Centre**

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on Saturday dismissed reports that an Iranian crude oil tanker heading to India was diverted to China over payment issues, stating that Indian refiners are, in fact, securing Iranian crude oil.

"Amid Middle-East supply disruptions, Indian refiners have secured their crude oil requirements, including from Iran; and there is no payment hurdle for Iranian crude imports, contrary to rumours being circulated," the Ministry said in a social media post.

Although the quantum of purchase has not been disclosed, the move marks a reversal from 2019, when India stepped away from purchasing Iranian crude following U.S. sanctions.

While refuting reports attributing vessel diversion to payment issues, the Ministry underlined that companies have "full flexibility to source oil from different sources and geographies based on commercial considerations". India imports crude oil from over 40 countries, the post added. It clarified that changes in vessel destinations during transit are common in global trade, as Bills of Lading often indicate tentative discharge ports and cargoes may be rerouted for operational and commercial reasons.

Indian refiners have been looking for opportunities to purchase a few cargoes of Iranian oil on water following the recent sanctions waiver by Washington.

"Claims on vessel diversion ignore how the oil trade works. Bills of Lading often carry indicative discharge ports, destinations and on-sea cargoes can change destinations mid-voyage based on trade optimisation and operational flexibility," the Ministry said.

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NEARBY

Drinking water scarcity reported in 324 villages

BENGALURU
Drinking water scarcity has been reported in 324 villages across 60 taluks in 20 districts of the State, said Priyank Kharge, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, and Information Technology & Biotechnology. The Minister said water is supplied to 76 villages through 76 tankers, while 248 are being given water by leasing 280 private borewells. » PAGE 6

IPL: Police fix game day glitches

BENGALURU
Ahead of the second IPL match at Bengaluru's M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday, the Bengaluru City Police (BCP) reimagined the previous game day of March 28, the IPL opening match for 2026, the first match held after the stampede at the Stadium that killed 11 in 2025, to address loopholes that emerged during the security deployment. » PAGE 5

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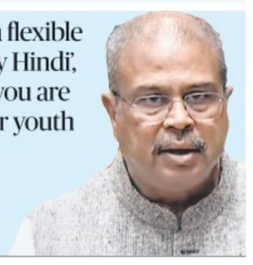
T.N. CM, Union Minister clash over three-language formula

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> It is a calculated and deeply concerning attempt at linguistic imposition that vindicates our long-standing apprehensions... This is not commitment; this is rank hypocrisy
>
> **M.K. STALIN**
> Tamil Nadu Chief Minister



> By misrepresenting a flexible policy as 'compulsory Hindi', you are not defending Tamil; you are creating barriers that deny our youth the opportunity to become multilingual global leaders
>
> **DHARMENDRA PRADHAN**
> Union Education Minister

With the Tamil Nadu Assembly election around the corner, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)'s announcement that it will implement the three-language formula in a phased manner from 2026-27 kicked off a war of words between the DMK government in the State and the BJP-led government at the Centre on "Hindi imposition" versus "progressive and inclusive multilingualism".

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin slammed the CBSE's move, which is driven by the National Education Policy, 2020, arguing that it is a "covert" way of "imposing" Hindi on non-Hindi speaking States with no "reciprocity". He demanded that his opponents in the State – the AIADMK and their NDA allies – choose whether they would support the policy, or whether they would, "for once, stand up for the rights, identity, and future of our students".

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan hit back, saying that this "narrative" was a "tired attempt to mask political failures". He said that "mischaracterising" the policy to portray multilingualism as a threat was "misplaced".

The three-language policy is a "calculated and deeply concerning attempt at linguistic imposition that vindicates our long-standing apprehensions," Mr. Stalin said, adding that it was being advanced "under the guise of promoting 'Indian' languages".

'Stark irony'

Calling out "the stark and unacceptable irony," he said: "The same Union government that has failed to make Tamil a mandatory language in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan schools now seeks to lecture States on promoting Indian languages. This is not commitment; this is rank hypocrisy." "The Centre appears determined to impose Hindi, brushing aside the legitimate, consistent, and democratic concerns raised by Tamil Nadu and several other States," Mr. Stalin said. He called this approach a "direct affront" to the principles of cooperative federalism and an "insult" to the linguistic identity of millions of Indians.

In response, Mr. Pradhan said, "By misrepresenting a flexible policy as 'compulsory Hindi', you are not defending Tamil; you are creating barriers that deny our youth the opportunity to become multilingual global leaders... Tamil is not weakened by the learning of additional languages; it is enriched when its speakers are multilingual, confident, and linguistically empowered."

PLURALITY AGAINST INTENT » PAGE 10

U.S. President Donald Trump

Trump gives Iran 48 hours to make deal or face 'Hell'

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Saturday that Iran had 48 hours left to cut a deal or face "all Hell", as U.S. and Iranian forces scrambled to find a downed American airman.

Mr. Trump's threat came after a strike near an Iranian nuclear plant killed a guard and prompted evacuations, and as Tehran announced fresh attacks with the Revolutionary Guards saying they hit a commercial ship in Bahrain allegedly linked to Israel.

"Time is running out – 48 hours before all Hell will reign down on them (SIC)," Mr. Trump posted on social media on Saturday, referring to an ultimatum issued on March 26 for Iran.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10
RISING COST OF WAR » PAGE 17

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World-class faculty of IIM Kozhikode
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Innovative Pedagogy | State-of-the-art curriculum
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Last Date for Applications 15 April 2026
IIMK BMS Aptitude Test 19 May 2026
Interview June 2026
Classes Commence August 2026
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Selection Process: IIMK BMS AT
For further enquiries, contact:-
Mobile: 9446979554 / 7356107510 / 7356109910 / 8111918111 / 7907469335 / 8606622200
Email: bms@iimk.ac.in | bmsathelpdesk@iimk.ac.in

Valley view: A look from atop the shrine shows a part of Aishmuqam locality with its mustard fields.

Uphill task: The devout carry torches to be lit outside the cave shrine of Sufi saint Baba Zain-ud-Din Wali.

Devoted gathering: People start to gather at the shrine, located on a hilltop overlooking Kashmir's popular tourist spot Pahalgam, to offer prayers.

Ready for ritual: Kashmiri Muslims sit with bundles of wood to be lit in the evening outside the shrine during the annual torch festival at Aishmuqam, 75 km south of Srinagar.

A hearth of Sufism

The annual Zool festival in South Kashmir keeps a rich Sufi legacy alive, symbolising victory of light over darkness, while heralding spring after a harsh Himalayan winter

Imran Nissar
imran.nissar@thehindu.co.in

The Zool festival of Aishmuqam shrine of Baba Zain-ud-Din Wali is a procession of faith and light. Also known as the illumination or torch festival, the Zool is a centuries-old tradition held at the shrine in Anantnag district of southern Kashmir.

At this shrine, located on a hillock overlooking the road to Pahalgam, the famous tourist destination in Kashmir, the annual fire procession symbolises the victory of light over darkness while commemorating the 15th-century Sufi saint Baba Zain-ud-Din Wali, a primary disciple of the renowned mystic Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Wali, also known as Nund Rishi.

This year, the festival was celebrated on April 2.

According to local legend, the saint meditated in a cave at Aishmuqam that was once infested with snakes or, in some versions, terrorised by a demon. His spiritual power eventually cleared the cave, and local people celebrated this "victory of good over evil" by lighting torches.

The procession involves thousands of devotees carrying wooden torches, locally called *mashals* or *phrov*, crafted from special wood gathered from nearby forests. Before the festival, local people refrain from eating or selling meat for three days as a form of spiritual purification.

As the sun sets, a glowing river of fire snakes up the 100-step staircase leading to the hilltop shrine. Participants chant religious hymns and seek blessings, creating a spectacle visible for miles across Anantnag.

The event also marks the *Shab-e-Doum* (the second night of prayers) and serves as a traditional herald of spring and signals farmers to begin sowing paddy after the harsh Himalayan winter.

The Aishmuqam fire procession remains a powerful symbol of Rishi-Sufi culture, drawing people from various faiths to celebrate communal harmony and the enduring legacy of *Sakhi* (the Generous) Zain-ud-Din Wali.

The spark is lit: A man lights a torch outside the cave shrine of the 15th-century saint.

Classifieds

thehinduads.com

LIFE MADE SIMPLE

THE HINDU

Matrimonial

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

INDEX OF MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED
BRIDES WANTED
BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED
Classification Common for Brides, Bridegrooms, Brides & Grooms
ASSAMESE
AWADHI
BENGALI
BHOJPURI
BIHARI
CHHATTISGARHI
ENGLISH
GUJARATI
HARYANI
HINDI
KANNADA
KASHMIRI
KONKANI
MALAYALAM
MANIPURI
MARATHI
MARWARI
NEPALI
ORIYA
PARSI
PUNJABI
SAURASHTRA
SINDHI
TAMIL
TELUGU
TULU
URDU
ADVOCATE
BUSINESS
DEFENCE
DOCTOR
ENGINEER
FINANCE/ BANKING
GOVERNMENT/ QUASI-GOVERNMENT
IAS/ ALLIED SERVICES
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
MBA/ CA/ ICWA
NRI
COSMOPOLITAN
DIVORCEE
PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED
MARRIAGE BUREAUS
WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS

BENGALI

Seeking Alliance from a Genial, eclectic & professionally well-established, South India based Bengali Groom Aged 37-42 years for a Creative and Cultured Bengali Banerjee Faculty, Aged 37, working at a Top Ranking University in Coimbatore. Contact details: rumpa.manjari7@gmail.com

COMPUTER / INFO.TECH

Mudaliar/ Pillai, Ayilyam, Dhosham/ 27 Years, Fair, IT/ Contact: 9486356017/ 6380273037

COSMOPOLITAN

HINDU LINGAYAT 28/172 /B Tech top NIT(2014–2018)/software job for 3 years 15L PA(2018–2021)/preparation for UPSC went upto interview (2021–2026) want to persue her career again / 21L PA(through properties and investments) parents both gazetted officers seeks central/ state/psu officers/PG doctors/ highly placed private sector/soft ware employees caste and location no bar 9505063063

BEAUTIFUL BRAHMIN 30, 165cm, educated (BE/MBA), accomplished. Seeks compatible, VEG groom. Cultured family. Lang. no bar. Call/ WA 9345634365

COSMOPOLITAN

29 YEARS/IT Consulting Professional/Christian (RC) open to both Christians and Hindus preferably from Chennai. You may contact: arokiyapaulin@gmail.com or 98414 03226 with your profile and also for receiving profile of the bride.

DIVORCEE

AGE –35, BE Graduate Working, Divorce Muslim Bride, Seeks A Groom in a Good Job. Ct: 9865130076

KIND, ATTRACTIVE, 41, well–educated NRI professional, yet willing to relocate. Seeks compatible groom. Caste no bar. Call/WA 93456 34365.

DOCTOR

HINDU VISWAKARMA Beautiful, rich 5'.5"/1994/ MBBS+MD+DNB / Bangalore /doctor bride (f– IAS) requires MBBS+PG– Viswakarma/ forward Hindu doctor groom (preferably willing to settle @ Bangalore) Mobile: 9743403900

DKV 29 Lady Radiologist, MD, Divorced, Chennai 9047119910

Hindu DKV 31/156 Mutal Divorced (No Kids) MBBS, MD (Patho) Coimbatore based Working in Pvt Medical College Hospital 14 Lacs p.a seeks suitable groom (CNB) Doctor or any Professionals. CT: 9894371444

HINDU VALLUVAN upper middle class fair slim 34 years 155cm MBBS, MD, DM 30 to 40 lakhs per annum, star Sadayam Bangalore require MBBS MD with good salary 34 to 37 years. Ct: 9845522122

Doctor Girl MBBS Deventra kula velalar, age 29, visakam thulam, preparing civil service exam, wanted groom from doctors or grade level officer, group 1. CT: 9943700240, 9943491711.

BRIDEGROOM WANTED
Hindu - Nanjil, Vellalar Pillai, Age 26, Height 157 cm Magham (Simha Rasi)
Doing MS Opthal in Chennai Fair & good-looking girl from doctor family.
Seeking MS/ MD Bridegroom from Nanjil Vellalar/ Vellalar Sub caste.
Contact/ Send WhatsApp:
87781 88699 / 95979 91002

Bride Groom Wanted for DOCTOR
Hindu Nadar MBBS Doctor pursuing MS (OG) – Final Year 25 Years height 5'5", fair and Good Looking
Native Thoothukudi District and settled in T. Nagar, Chennai. VIP Family and Rich background
Looking for MBBS, MD, MS qualified Groom
rjrhouse201@gmail.com
9487657423 / 9514777115

ENGINEER

HINDU JANGAM 39 yrs 157 cm. Never married. M.Tech, Ph.D. Employed in MNC Bangalore. Coimbatore native. Well settled and educated family seeks suitable GROOM. Contact 9486476641.

GOVT / QUASI GOVT

Bengali Bride: Graduate(35, 149 Cm) Pursuing Music; Parents (Father Retd. Central Govt officer) seek a Bengali / South Indian Boy (37-40 yrs) Working in Delhi NCR. Contact: 9560647111

HINDI

CA,CFE AGARWAL 26/158cm consultant at MNC(WFH) Fair & Beautiful Girl From Reputed Fmly. Seeking Educated Groom from respected fmly. 8171351626

MALAYALAM

HINDU EZHAVA lady Doctor 31/160 working in Germany invites suitable matrimonial proposal. 9496965983

NAIR GIRL 92 born ,165cm,MBBS, Atham,seeking Nair groom from chennai/kerala/TN WhatsApp profile 9042526302,No Brokers

TAMIL

CSI CHRISTIAN, 35/154, Fair, MBBS., MD Govt. Doctor Girl Chennai, Seeks well placed Protestant Christian Groom. Contact:84382 78915

TAMIL

ROMAN CATHOLIC Nadar, 23 / 167, B.Arch, Working as Junior Nodular Designer in Coimbatore Salary Rs 300000 PA, O Negative Blood Group, Native of Kanyakumari District, presently settled in Tiruchirapalli, Seeks suitable Boy. Contact : 94421 62159.

MUSLIM, 35, M.Tech, 20 lakhs. Ph: 8137001257

CHRISTIAN, RC NADAR, 23, BDS, Upper middle class. Ph: 7356483111

✔ **MUSLIM GIRL 39 well mannered seeks educated, employed, unmarried Tamil Muslim groom. 9444235779**

CHRISTIAN, 28, B.Tech, Govt. job, 30 lakhs, NRI. Ph: 8137001253.

CHRISTIAN, 28, Fair, Upper middle class, MD, Doctor. Ph: 8138900312

LOOKING FOR God Fearing, Family Oriented, Canadian or American Citizen, Age 30–35 for a Born again Canadian Citizen Bride Age 29 height 154cm Professional, have Biblical values and Faith. Profile and Photo to rvjplanning@gmail.com / 9677181606

RC NADAR Doctor MD ongoing, 27 Chennai based seeks suitable Doctor Groom WhatsApp 7550389742

CATHOLIC, 28, Rich / affluent, Chennai circle. 8138900312

CHRISTIAN NADAR, 29, MD, CMC Vellore. Seeks suitable Groom age 30 to 33. Doctors, Engineers, Professionals. 85261 91000, 94453 96996

E.NITHYA (30yrs) B.Tech(Chemical Engg) seeks groom from Class 1 officer of Central / State Government from SC/ST community(Hindu).9969228297

PILLAI 25Yrs/157cm Pooja Fair BE Hospital Mgt Canada seeks grooms any Country.9894107825, 9500595339

SEEKING PROFESSIONAL for 44yr SC Adidravida unmarried IT Professional from Chennai holding Singapore PR. Cont–nimmi1952@gmail.com/+91720 0942776/+91 9790921761

FAIR HINDU Mudaliyar Doctor 30/165, 75 Kg, working in NHS, UK. Seeks groom from Hindu Doctors either in UK or those willing to relocate / CNB / Contact : 87784 23359.

SC 43 Physiotherapist First Marriage CNB Coimbatore seeks Groom CT: Whatsapp: 9489176568

GROOM WANTED Naidu, 31yrs, M.Tech, Industries with commercial complex in Chennai Ph: 6385293227

HINDU, 23, Pillai, M.Sc, Upper Middle class,30 lakhs. Ph: 8138900553

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar 31yrs MBBS, MS, Elite business family Ph:9841329471 / 9380791999

GROOM WANTED Rich Mudaliyar, 24yrs,B.Tech, Own promoters in Chennai Ph:6385293227

HINDU, 38, UK, any caste, PhD, 10 crores. Ph: 8138901281

HASTHAM 38 MCA well settled in Chennai seeks prof qualified Pillai/Mudaliar groom. 8925640261/ 8220757159

Hindu Girl only Daughter Very Rich Beautiful 28 innocent Divorcee No Child. Boy should be Hindu below 33 from Elite Government Service or Professional or Rich Business Family preferably from TN. Divorcee Widower or First Marriage Caste No Bar. Send all details to 8081104364 (WhatsApp only) No Brokers

PILLAI VEG 41/172cm CEO Pvt London –Parents Chennai seeks UK Professionals /willing to go to UK CNB Geetham 9884858014

HINDU, 23, Canada, Private, ME, Canada, 80 lakhs. Ph: 8138009235.

WE ARE looking for an alliance for our daughter, aged 30 years, residing in Chennai, height 162cm, MBBS, MHA, Aesthetic Medicine, Hindu, Agamudayar, working in a reputed hospital at Chennai as an Administrator. Kumbam–Sadhayam. Looking for Doctor or well settled business back ground groom. Contact 9739070404 / 9282226820 / archdivyagsr@gmail.com

HINDU, DIVORCED, no kids, 32, BE. Ph: 8137003550

HINDU, 26, Mudaliar, Doctor, BSMS, looking for same community. Ph: 8137003549

MUDALIAR DIVORCE, 30, BE, 160cm Good–looking Well settled family Seeks Groom CNB. 8778514465/ 7200866346

PQM FOR (US Citizen) beautiful girl 2001/177 cm, JD/MBA vegetarian, seeking progressive tall match (182 cm), Hindu, US citizen North East based. Parents well settled Tamil Brahmins. E: mail@gurumyth7064@gmail.com with pics/ details.

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar,25yrs, BE,SWE,1.5L pm, business family Ph:9841329471,9380791999

GROOM WANTED SC (AD), 28yrs,CA, Affluent business family in Chennai Ph: 6369113665

GROOM WANTED CNB, 27yrs, MBA, Well Educated background in Chennai Ph: 9962791888

TAMIL

HINDU SC PR, 38 years/153cm, MSc, Viruchigam, Anusham, Seeks suitable Groom, Ct 8754564807

HINDU, DKV, Er., 26y, April, 154cm/45kg M.Tech, Bosch, Research Er.,1L/pm, eql. Edu & physical status. 98432 24626 / 7598384241

HINDU GIRL 28 yrs Fair Slim BE MS 5 yrs MNC Exp. Working in Bangalore seeks Professional Groom 9444000654

PILLAI 28/162 MS Engineer Bangalore seeks Smart High professional Abroad Ok CNB Geetham 9884858014

GROOM WANTED vokkaliga Gounder, 27yrs MBA,well educated family seeks alliance from Gounder/ Mudaliyar business/ IT in Chennai. 9380791999

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar 36yrs, B.tech, MBA working in SWE 2Lp/m, divorce educated family Ph:. 9841329471 / ,9380791999

ARCOT THULUVA Velalar Mudaliyar BDS 34 Years Well Settled Family Chennai CT : 6382232024 / 9486531194

RICH NAIDU 33yrs, BE, MBA, Industrial background in Chennai Ph:6369113665

SC/ADIDRAVIDAR/MSC DOB 1983 bride seeks suitable qualified employeed bridegroom 8754354205

SC ARUNTHATHIAR, 32yrs/ 150ft, Govt. Doctor, MBBS., M.S., seeks suitable Groom.9788153517,6381334373

KARKATHAR PILLAI 30/ 155, B.E Software Engineer in USA, H1B seeks Tamil vegetarian groom in USA/ Canada/ India. Ct: +91 6382662451/ +91 9444221942/ vinbasekaran@yahoo.com

YADAV, RICH / affluent, MBA, looking for equal profile. 7356483111

RC NADAR, BDS, looking for a Business profile. 8138900316

HINDU, B.TECH, looking for a Canada profile in any caste. 8138009235

MUDHALIYAR, 30, rich / affluent, looking for equal caste in Tamil Nadu and Bangalore circle. 8138900412

PILLAI, 30 lakhs, widow, looking for equal caste in Chennai circle. 8138900553

MUDALIAR 27/165 Beautiful, MBBS, MS, Sundaram Hospital,2400000 PA, Elite Family, CNB.9043991629, 9043987029

MUDALIAR/ PILLAI: 22/Beautiful, MBA, Father Industrialist, Elite Family, Only daughter, seeks groom only Business. Ct– 9962530015

MUDALIAR (CNB) : 24/Fair, BE, MS (USA), MNC, SWE, USA, Decent Pay, Elite Family, Seeks Groom Abroad / India.Ct – 8925019776

BHMS (HOMOEOPATHY DOCTOR) Medical Claim Officer UTI Central Government (working in Chennai) Pillai, 17/07/1997, Height: 160cm, Virchigam Kettai looking Groom from same caste, Doctor / Engineer, Good family background. Contact: 98421 06061

MUDALIAR VEG 49/163 Bpt Ch Seek well Settled Groom Pillai Brahmin Widowr with child Ok Geetham 9884858014

Chettiyar F, 32, 168 cm forward-thinking, Chn Int Designer & Prof. Seeking kind, Educated Groom.Ph.9790838948

Vanniakula Shathriyar, BDS, 29, Pooram, Employed in Chennai, looking for Groom Govt, Bank Officer and Professional. Contact: 9841550165.

✔ **CSI 31Y,** F, MS, working in Sanjose USA, seeking suitable alliance any degree, God fearing broad minded willing to relocate to Sanjose, No Caste: Contact 9884061640.

TELUGU

GAVARA NAIDU, 23/Fair, M.Sc.,B.Ed., Business family, running school, seeks well educated any profession or business groom. Contact : 94434 65588.

GROOM FOR my daughter. Sept.95 born. 165 cms. Fair. 24 telugu chetty. B.Tech. Worked for 2 years. Presently not working Coimbatore based. Seeks alliance from same/similar community. Whatsapp. no.8015705614.

GROOM WANTED Rich Naidu,25yrs,B. Tech, MBA (canada), Elite Industrial background Ph:6369113665

HINDU NAIDU 40 yrs 172cm Divorced no children, Well settled educated family seeks professionally well qualified groom from (40-44) Contact no. 9842470621.

Naidu Girl 30/165 cm Aswini pursuing PhD Doctoral studies in Satellite Communications Neuromorphic Computing European space agency Europe-completing by Dec 2026 seeking suitable groom PhD / MS in USA. 98401 03686

TELUGU YADAVA 32/162 Thiruvonam Magaram B.Tech seeks suitable groom. Send Horoscope: Whatsapp 9500046027

NAIDU 26/161 Beautiful, MBBS, MD, Vijaya Hospital, 2000000 PA, Elite Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

BRIDES WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

EDUCATED BRIDE –35 for Groom RC, Software Engineer,43, Chennai,5ft 8inches /72Kg Never Married, Handsome, Teetotaler Ct.9841293531 / antonbr144@gmail.com

SMART, CHRISTIAN 31, 180cm, enterprising, UK–educated professional. Seeks compatible bride. Religion/ community no bar. Call/WA 9345 634 365

DM DR(Dec–91/6'1/ Vellala Gounder/ veg@home) seeks a v.fair, virtuous, slim, tall PG Dr / well edu bride from equal caste, at Bangalore. Parents: 9342529547/ 9072118800

KARKATHAR PILLAI 37, 170 cm, fair and handsome, BE (Telecom), Officer Indian Army IT Branch, 30 lacs PA, never married, son of retd army officer looking for affable and well educated girl. Equal and sub caste no bar. 9448307862.

36 YRS, B.Tech mgr govt Bank salary 1.5 LPM owning properties in Ch, Seeking alliance CNB. 9940507235

LOOKING FOR a Bride for our Son 39 M.Tech,MS Engineer Sweden.Hindu Mudaliar,Uthiradam,180cm.Ct:9884187197

BRIDE FROM a Hindu Community required for a Qualified Software Engineer Employed in a MNC earning good salary Aged 28 – Seeking an employed girl with good family Background Contact : 9840029449

DIVORCEE

MUSLIM ACADEMIC, PhD, 64, NRI, religious, seeks Muslim bride aged 40–60. Vernacular, wealth, issues, caste no bar. Contact maamohideen@yahoo.com.au.

SMART GRACEFUL 51 year old divorcee, No Issues seeking caring partner,also without issues, caste no bar. Contact: 9841672014

TAMIL HINDU 55y/173cm BSc, MBA, IT Prof, Australia Citizen, Divorcee. Seeks Bride, WhatsApp: +61422909407

SMART, SINCERE 43, 175cm, positive, ambitious Singapore–based tech professional. Seeks kind, compatible S Indian bride. Call/WA 9345 634 365

DOCTOR

DOCTOR MS Surgeon, RC Catholic Nadar, 32, Divorcee, No children, Tirunelveli seeking Doctor alliance. 9488104192

MD DOCTOR/ Elite /25 years/Vellalar /Fair /Good looking seeks PG doctors/well settled professionals CNB WhatsApp 9500163683

SC VANNIAR 31/167 super specialist Doctor Trauma Surgeon JIPMER/ AIIMS Delhi well mannered, seeks suitable Doctor bride. Ct: 9445252124

VANNIYAR KULA Kshatriyar MD, 25. Seeks MBBS, MD Bride from Hindu Family. Contact: 9445644311

VISWABRAHMIN BOY, born and brought up in Dubai (37) working in UK as Ortho Surgeon, British citizen, looking girls working in UK. Doctors only. Call: 9061084070.

ENGLISH

IIT Educated Brahmin boy 35/178 settled in Mangalore working in ONGC seeks bride. MP UP Locals preferred. Ct : 7906537840

GOVT / QUASI GOVT

33. 168 cm. Mgr, SBI. Atheist, Christian family. Seeks financially independent, intellectually inclined Tamil/Malayali partner. Caste/religion no bar. Ctct: 9789227517

HINDI

1985/175CM, 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

SAURASTRA

SAURASTRA HINDU: CNB, 40, 1st Marriage, Kanni Hastham, MBA Finance, 1.5 L pm, Seeks Suitable Bride. Parents Contact. 9444735240 / 9381725577

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN, 29, Doctor, looking for any caste in doctor profession. Ph: 7356483111

CATHOLIC 27 /173/ BE/ MNC/ Chennai/ Handsome/ Seeks Educated Girl. Contact: 9025608385

CHRISTIAN, 35/ 170cm, Divorcee, B.E. M.S (USA) Work Permit. Looking for a Suitable Bride working at USA Ct: 9003212573

PILLAI 44 Divorcee M.Com Central Govt service Rs.13.50 lakhs PA seeks bride caste no bar 9094020665

Mudaliyar 54/170 unmarried B.Com Manager- Pvt concern 50K seeks well settled bride. CNB. Ph: 93602 97552

TAMIL

PILLAI, SOZHIA Vellalar 41yrs MBA, Manager, Pvt. 6 Lpa Divorcee, Seeks suitable bride, CNB. Ct: 9952362396

HINDU, 36, divorced, any caste, Doctor, 30 lakhs. Ph: 8138900316

HINDU, NAIDU, 29, MS, USA, 20 crores. Ph: 8138901281

HINDU, NADAR, MBM, 10 crores, UK. Ph: 8137003550

HINDU, 28, Yadav, Doctor, 40 lakhs. Ph: 9072777811

DKV 2nd Marriage 53 / 3.5 LPM Sr. GM B'lore Seeks Issueless Girl CNB 9442607143.

DKV Divorcee 44 / 1.5 LPM DGM PSU Son with Mother Seeks Issueless Girl CNB 8903778148.

VANNIAR B.TECH Mechatronics,31 Entrepreneur Affluent family.Seek Bride SameComunity.9444453825/94454 29365

HINDU, 31, Masters, 70 lakhs, any caste. Ph: 9048444858

HINDU, 32, Divorced, Thevar, looking from same community in divorced or unmarried. Ph: 9072777811

✔ **MUDALIAR, THIRUVADURAI–MITHUNAM, Sep 95 born, 6.1 ft, B.E–CSE, Sr.Dev. Wipro, 18LPA, H1B Cap apln appvd by USCIS, good character & family, well settled boy, seeks well educated & settled, slim & fair, good character & family girl, Ct/WA 94432 28917**

VANNIYAR S.PRAVEEN Kumar, BE, 1.20/M, Moola Nakshatram, Dhanush Rasi, Ch– 77. Ct:8610711668 / 9884470377

GAVARA NAIDU Affluent family Chennai 29/165 ME Design Engineer in MNC and Own Business, Rental income also, Star Thiruvonam Rasi Magaram, CNB Call 9841097110

HINDU NAIDU/PILLAI, 30/180, Vishagam, Virchigam, ME, Sr. Engineer, Pvt. Chennai, CNB. Ct: 9840619480.

SEEKS BRIDE from Parvatharajakulam Community with BE Age Less than 25 Yrs for BE(Mech) Boy Aged 26, Software Engr working in Reputed Firm in Chennai Ct: 9445020858/ 9345370904

Hindu Nadar 40 SBI Bank Coimbatore Remarriage seeks Bride MB 9942280831

BRIDE WANTED Mudaliyar,28yrs,MBBS, MD,DNB,Own Transports& Warehouses in Chennai,Affluent family:6369113665

TAMIL

BRIDE WANTED
Alliance invited – Tamil Hindu, slim and handsome groom aged 29, height 180 cm, MD-Neurology Resident, in USA, J1 visa holder, Financially secure and independent, gives importance to active lifestyle and physical fitness, only son of professionally qualified, affluent parents based in Chennai. Looking for slim, professionally qualified, bride working in USA or willing to migrate to USA. Broadminded groom, Religion / Caste/ Language no bar.
Contact WhatsApp: 9840671046,
Email: vallichinnamani@gmail.com

BRIDE WANTED
40 years, 170 cm, Ayilyam, kadagam, 15 Lacs pm income, Hindu/widower with one male child/Vanniyar, rich & disciplined Graduate from Reputed Family. Knowing English, Tamil, Gujarathi & Hindi. Seeks Fair bride below 37 years, Unmarried / Divorcee No issues from BC/MBC/FC
Contact: 9443244060

TAMIL

NAIDU, B.TECH., Age :34, Punarpoosam, Working in Germany Rs.72 Lakhs p/a. Ct:73054 60763

WELL–SETTLED GROOM, aged 48, own house IT employee, needs Hindu bride between 36 to 40. Contact 0413 2968644

40 BE Mudaliyar Chennai Asst Manager, Private. 1st Marriage. Decent Background Ct: 8610518808, 9952010118

HINDU, VVIP, looking for a royale and Good looking profile in south districts (any caste). 8137003550

HINDU, 34, ME, Brahmin, 45 lakhs, looking for equal profile. 8137003516

PILLAI SOZHIA Vellalar 34 yrs Poosam Kadagam Kethu Non Veg. Lead Engineer in MNC at Coimbatore, one Lakh pm. Seeks suitable educated Bride age 27-30. Contact: 9443859181.

MUDALIAR 30/180 Handsome, MBBS MS, Ramachandra Hosp, 3000000 PA, Elite 40.Cr, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

HINDU NADAR 29yrs, B.Tech, MS,SWE, 2 Lp/m,well educated family 9841329471,9380791999

TAMIL

ADIDRAVIDAR AGE 29 BE, MBA Pvt 85000 / well settled wants suitable bride. ct: 8122289871, 9444139323

HINDU MUDALIAR 34/165 M.Tech, Lecturer, seeks good family bride. Caste No Bar. Ct: 9791507303

AUS CTZN Tamil Brahmin Kashyap June 1973 Groom invites Brahmin Brides. +91 99620 02012

IYER AGE 32, 175cm B. E.(ECE) IT Professional 15 Laks Annum Chennai Vadoola, Rohini, Seeks Employed Girl from any South Indian Brahmin Community 9789909179

BRAHMIN IYER Boy, 32/170cms, B.Tech, TCS Chennai.seeks Brahmin Graduate Girl. Simple marriage. 9940352807

BRIDE WANTED for Boy Born Aug 2002, Slim, 170cm- Poosam 1 Patham Kadagam - B.Tech IT 2024 Chennai, Working in TCS at Chennai - Parents, Tamil Iyer, Brahmin, Vadamal, Kousigam, Yajurvedam, North Arcot (Native Munjurpet, Vellore) -Settled at Chennai - Only Son - Seeks Suitable Bride from same caste - Respond with full details: giridharanmr@gmail.com Mobile: 97914 32784

TAMIL

Seeking BRIDE for Bridegroom
Hindu, Kulalar/Udayaar, 44 yrs, 170 cms, M.Tech, IT professional, Caste open for discussion. First Marriage Only
CT: 93842 76066

HNCNB, 43, 180, MBA Dvr, 2L pm, L-Bride, W/o-Kid, Contact: 9825661334.

CSI CHRISTIAN Boy 38 years Divorcee, MDS, Dental Surgeon, Own Clinic, 7 Lakh PM, well settled, Coimbatore, Seeks bride, Caste & Religion No bar. Ct :9843865067 / 9790166987

Hindu Nadar 26-years 183 cm MTech, Private Company Contact - Phone. 9443781438

TELUGU

NAIDU 37, BE, ECE, Quality Engr in Pvt Company Well Settled Family in Chennai. Caste NoBar 8939090211

NAIDU 29/185 Handsome, MBBS, MD, DM, Miot Hospitals, 3500000 PA, Elite 50.Cr, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

TAMIL

27 YRS, 183 cm, M.Tech, BLR professional (16 LPA)good family. Seeking qualified bride. Ph: 9940259124

MARRIAGE BUREAU

US UK Canada All Caste Religion 1st Marriage Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

THE HINDU

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Chief Guest

Shri. Amitesh Kumar Sinha
Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India
CEO - India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)

Guests of Honour

Dr Panneerselvam Madanagopal
CEO, MeitY Startup Hub (MSH), Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. Govt. of India

Prof. C Muthamizhchelvan
Vice - Chancellor, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST)

Mr B Govindarajan
CEO, Royal Enfield India

DAY 01

09:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Inauguration

Fireside chat: 10:50 AM - 11:10 AM
From Assembly to Electronics Excellence: India's Semiconductor Ambitions
Shri. Amitesh Kumar Sinha, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India CEO - India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)
in conversation with **Aroon Deep,** Principal Correspondent, The Hindu

Panel: 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM
The Deep Tech Decade: Engineering the Next Revolution
Dr Nitin Nagarkar, Pro Vice - Chancellor, Medical, SRMIST
Thirumalai Srinivasan, Director, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, SRM
Dinesh Kumar Sundaravelu, CEO, Tamil Nadu Research Park Foundation
Kannan Vijaya Raghavan, President, Society for Technology Management (STEM)
Moderated by **Suresh Vijayaraghavan,** CTO, The Hindu Group

Fireside chat: 12:20 PM - 01:00 PM
From Lab to Nation: How India Can Build a Global Deep Tech Ecosystem
Prof. Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Institute Professor - IIT Madras and Chairman, Immersive Technology and Entrepreneurship Labs (ITEL). in conversation with **L V Navaneeth,** CEO, The Hindu Group

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
Lunch

Startup Pitch : 02:00 PM - 02:10 PM
An Opening Platform for Bold Ideas That Set The Tone for Deep Tech Innovation.
Featuring **Dr Shiva Ramaswamy,** Co-founder & CEO, Big Bang Boom Solutions

Panel: 02:10 PM - 03:10 PM
The Symbiotic Lab: Re-engineering Academic Research for Industrial Agility
Gowri Kailasam, CEO, Rane Madras Limited - SLD & LMCD.
Prasad Maganti, CEO, vTitan
T R Parasuraman, GD Naidu Chair Professor , SRMIST & Former President & Whole Time Director, Toyota Industries Engines India Pvt.Ltd .
Dinesh Arjun, CEO, Raptee
Moderated by **John Xavier,** Tech Editor, The Hindu

Startup Pitch : 03:10 PM - 03:20 PM
A High-Impact Showcase of Refined Ideas with Strong Potential for Scale and Investment.
Featuring **Shivam Bhatia,** Co-founder & CEO, Abinava Rizel

Panel: 03:20 PM - 04:20 PM
From IP to IPO: The Investor's Blueprint for Scaling "Made-in-Lab" Deep Tech
Venu Gopal Chintada, Partner, Sathguru Catalysers
S Anil Kumar, PhD, Founder & CEO, Jodi365.Com
Vaishali James, Co-founder, Sangatna Angels
MV Subramaniam, Partner, JULY Ventures
Moderated by **Sindhu Hariharan,** Chief of Bureau, businessline

Startup Pitch : 04:20 PM - 04:30 PM
Where Promising Ideas Engage with Investors and Industry Experts.
Featuring **Vibhakar Senthil,** Co-founder, Torus Motion

Panel: 04:30 PM - 05:30 PM
The New Philanthropy: CSR as a Catalyst for Inclusive Deep Tech Ecosystems
Kumar Anurag Pratap, VP, Digital Inclusion & Sustainability Leader, CSR Head
Sanjay Sampath, CEO, Green Curve Consulting
Aditi Gaitonde, Manager - People Experience (CSR Lead), EPAM
Balakumar Thangavelu, Head CSR, Cognizant
Radhika Ramesh, COO, Villgro
Moderated by **Rohit Batra,** Vice - President (Head) Commercial Projects, IHFC (TIH of IIT Delhi)

05:30 PM - 05:40 PM
Master Class by **Parag Agarwal,** CEO at UniversityTech.io

05:40 PM - 06:10 PM
IHFC Workshop by **Rohit Batra,** Vice President (Head) Commercial Projects, IHFC (TIH of IIT Delhi)

06:15 PM - 06:45 PM
Startup India Workshop
by **Rishi Dewan,** Associate Startup India, Invest India

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Burning bright: As the sun sets, people light their torches and hold it up outside the cave shrine.

Festive spirit: Women participants at the centuries-old Zool festival in Kashmir.

Rise of the flames: People hold up burning wooden torches during the annual festival symbolising victory over evil.

Warding off darkness: A youth rests a lit torch in a raised pole position outside the shrine.

Sacred site: An illuminated view of the hilltop shrine of Sakhi Zain-ud-din Wali.

CMYK

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As vertigo cases increase, specialists raise concerns over diagnostic gaps

An estimated 15% to over 20% of adults experience vertigo or dizziness each year, with prevalence peaking in the 55-64 years age group

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Vertigo and balance disorders are increasingly emerging as a significant yet under-recognised health concern in India, with specialists pointing to widespread gaps in diagnosis and management, particularly at the first point of care.

At a clinical workshop that brought together neurologists, ENT specialists and general physicians on Saturday, experts noted that a substantial proportion of patients presenting with dizziness are either misdiagnosed or treated symptomatically without identifying the underlying cause.

An estimated 15% to over 20% of adults experience vertigo or dizziness each year, with prevalence peaking in the 55 to 64 years age group. Vertigo is a sensation that the environment around the person is spinning in circles.

Despite its frequency, vertigo is often dismissed as a minor or transient condition, leading to delay in diagnosis and prolonged discomfort.

> In India, more than 70 million people are suffering from vertigo. Though about 74% of cases are benign, recognising red flags and identifying serious neurological or ENT conditions is crucial
>
> **SURYANARAYANA SHARMA P.M.**
> Senior consultant neurologist and stroke specialist

Delay in diagnosis

Despite its frequency, vertigo is often dismissed as a minor or transient condition, leading to delay in diagnosis and prolonged discomfort. In some cases, clinicians cautioned, this may result in missing serious underlying neurological or vestibular disorders.

Suryanarayana Sharma P.M., senior consultant neurologist and stroke specialist, said, "In India, more than 70 million people are suffering from vertigo. Though about 74% of cases are benign, recognising red flags and identifying serious neurological or ENT conditions is crucial. This requires a multidisciplinary approach." He underlined the need for dedicated vertigo clinics.

Specialists highlighted that one of the key challenges lies in differentiating between various types of vertigo - peripheral, central and functional - which often present with overlapping symptoms but require distinct treatment pathways. They stressed the importance of structured clinical evaluation, including detailed patient history and bedside examination of vestibular and ocular motor systems, rather than relying solely on symptomatic treatment.

Sunil Narayan Dutt, senior consultant in ENT, emphasised the need for more practical, experience-based training for clinicians. He noted that hands-on sessions and case-based discussions can help physicians build confidence in assessing patients, particularly in busy clinical settings where time and resources are limited.

Adding an international perspective, Michael Strupp, neurologist and vestibular expert, said that advances in vestibular medicine have made many vertigo conditions highly treatable. "The challenge is no longer the lack of treatment, but ensuring that the right diagnosis is made early through structured clinical evaluation," he said.

Post-viral conditions

Experts also observed that vertigo is increasingly being seen in association with broader neurological and post-viral conditions, adding to the complexity of diagnosis and care.

They underlined that improving diagnostic accuracy at the primary care level is critical to reducing unnecessary investigations and ensuring better patient outcomes, especially in the context of an ageing population and rising lifestyle-related risks.

Two arrested for murder

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 32-year-old man was stabbed to death following a series of quarrels near J.C. Nagar in north Bengaluru on Saturday, the police said. The victim has been identified as Vijay. According to a complaint filed by one Ranjitha, the incident stemmed from a late-night altercation on Friday.

Investigations revealed that Vijay, allegedly in an inebriated state, picked a fight with a man, identified as Vinod Kumar, after a minor accident in J.C. Nagar on Friday night.

The altercation escalated, and Vijay allegedly damaged Vinod's two-wheeler.

Later that night, Vinod, along with one Uday Kiran, went to Vijay's house to confront him.

However, Vijay did not open the door. On Saturday morning, tensions flared again when Vijay allegedly went near the residence of a woman known to Uday and abused her. Enraged by this, Uday and Vinod began searching for Vijay.

The police said the duo traced Vijay to a bar in the area, where another argument broke out. Vijay reportedly fled the spot but was intercepted by the two in a nearby lane off J.C. Nagar Main Road around 11.45 a.m.

The duo allegedly stabbed him with a knife and fled. Bystanders rushed him to a nearby hospital, where he was declared dead on arrival. He had sustained severe injuries to his abdomen and chest, the police said.

The police have booked both Vinod and Uday under the BNS dealing with murder and have arrested them.

Rowdy-sheeter held under Goonda Act

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Mahalakshmi Layout police have arrested a rowdy-sheeter identified as Vinay Kumar, 30, under the provisions of the Goonda Act.

Kumar, a known rowdy element in the Mahalakshmi Layout Police Station limits, has allegedly been actively involved in criminal activities across various police station limits.

He has been involved in criminal activities since 2010, with a total of 29 cases registered against him between 2010 and December 2025. He has cases in Nandini Layout, Peenya, Vyalikaval, S.R. Nagar, and Wilson Garden, besides Mahalakshmi Layout.

The cases include murder, attempt to murder, extortion, conspiracy to commit dacoity, dacoity, rioting, assault, rape, and other offences.

Kumar was recently involved in an attempted murder case booked in December 2025. The police said the accused had been violating bail conditions imposed by the court and had been absconding without appearing before the court in pending cases.

As he continued to engage in criminal activities and create fear among the public, the Mahalakshmi Layout police submitted a proposal to detain him under the Goonda Act. After examination, the Commissioner forwarded the report to the Advisory Board of the High Court and the State government.

Accordingly, the State government, by an order dated April 2, 2026, directed the detention of the accused. Kumar is currently in custody and will be continued under the Goonda Act for a period of one year.

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Dr. Adya Sharma, Director, SCMS, Pune

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B.Com.* (Hons.) International Finance (ACCA, UK)
B.Com.* (Hons.) Twinning with Bentley University, USA
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B.Sc. (Hons.) Biomedical Sciences
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B.Tech. CS and Medical Engg. (Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics)
B.Tech. Electronics and Communication Engineering
B.Sc.* (Hons.) Bioinformatics
13. AUDIOLOGY & SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
B.ASLP Bachelor of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology+
14. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
B.OT Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (5 years)
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B.Sc. (Hons.) Clinical Psychology+
B.Sc. Applied Psychology
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2. DENTAL
MDS**
3. PHARMACY
M.Pharm Pharmacy Practice / Pharmaceutics / Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance / Pharmacognosy / Pharmacology / Pharmaceutical Analysis / Pharmaceutical Regulatory Affairs
Pharm. D. (Post Baccalaureate)
4. NURSING
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5. PHYSIOTHERAPY
M.PT Musculoskeletal Sciences / Obstetrics & Gynecology Sciences / Neurosciences / Cardio-Pulmonary Sciences / Oncology Sciences
6. ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
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M.Sc. Medical Bioinformatics
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‘Academic calendar clashes with Census work’

Teachers, PU lecturers urge the govt. to release them from the work, as they argue that it is difficult to handle academic work simultaneously

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

As the Census 2027 has begun across the State, government school teachers and pre-university college lecturers who have been deputed as enumerators for the census, are under pressure as the former are assigned to the evaluation of SSLC answer sheets and latter to take online special classes for CET, NEET and other entrance exams.

It is difficult to evaluate answer sheets, work as enumerators and conduct online special classes simultaneously, teachers and lecturers have argued, and urged the government to immediately release them from census work.

Training for enumerators for Census is being carried out in three phases – the first phase completed in all districts from April 1 to 3, and the second phase will be held from April 4 to 6, with the third phase between April 7 and 9. FILE PHOTO

Training for enumerators for Census is being carried out in three phases - the first phase completed in all districts from April 1 to 3, and the second phase will be held from April 4 to 6, with the third phase between April 7 and 9. Following this, enumerators need to visit households between April 16 and May 16.

This schedule of the Census in the State is directly clashing with the responsibilities of thousands of high school teachers and PU lecturers roped in as enumerators for the census.

Evaluation work

The SSLC examination was completed on April 2, 2026 and the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) has announced that the results would be declared on April 24. Evaluation will begin from April 8, for which about 70,000 high school teachers have registered.

Meanwhile, annual examinations for classes 8 and 9, along with other classes, were completed on April 4, 2026. The School Education Department has made preparations to declare the results on April 10 and to give summer vacation. Teachers are engaged in evaluation of these papers as well.

Special classes

The School Education Department (Pre-University) has been conducting online live classes every day for 25,000 selected students of the II PUC Science stream of government pre-university colleges to prepare them for the CET/NEET/JEE entrance exams.

These classes were suspended due to exams recently and have restarted from April 1 and will go on till April 20, for four hours daily. All science lecturers have to participate mandatorily, the department has mandated.

Moreover, II PUC results will be declared on April 7, and lecturers are to take special classes for those students who fail to clear the exam to prepare them for annual exam-2, scheduled between April 25 and May 8. The CET exams are scheduled to be held on April 23 and 24, NEET on May 3, for all of which PU lecturers will be roped in.

Demand for exemption

“As soon as we finished the SSLC exam, the government assigned us for training for the Census. In the meantime, we have also been assigned evaluation work. Even if we are absent from any of these tasks, the government has the power to file a criminal case against us. In such a situation, how can we work?” questioned a high school teacher. Taking this into consideration, all high school teachers have been exempted from census work in Vijayapura district by the Deputy Commissioner. The teachers’ associations now demand the same model be adopted across the State and both high school teachers and PU lecturers be exempted from census work.

Ningegowda A.H., president of the Karnataka State Pre-University College Lecturers’ Association, said teachers and lecturers were being burdened with Census work, Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls amid an exam and results season, in the scorching summer heat.

He said the association had already petitioned the Principal Secretary of School Education to exempt teachers and lecturers from census work, which could hinder them from performing their academic activities.

BOSCON 2026 focuses on growing role of robotics, AI, biologics, among others

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Discussions on the growing role of robotics, artificial intelligence, biologics and minimally invasive techniques in orthopaedic practice, alongside the need for their ethical and evidence-based adoption, took centre stage at BOSCON 2026, the 29th annual conference of the Bangalore Orthopaedic Society.

Experts at the conference, which began in the city on Saturday, emphasised that while technological advancements are rapidly transforming orthopaedics, clinical decision-making must continue to be guided by scientific evidence and patient-centred outcomes. Sessions focused on real-world challenges, with case-based discussions exploring complex surgical scenarios and the importance of structured clinical reasoning.

The conference also highlighted the need to balance innovation with established clinical practices, with speakers underlining that the integration of new technologies should not come at the cost of fundamental principles of care.

“Orthopaedics today stands at a dynamic crossroads. We inherit a rich legacy built by our teachers and academicians, while witnessing unprecedented advancements in robotics, biologics, artificial intelligence, and precision surgery. The challenge is to integrate these responsibly, guided by evidence and ethics,” said Subodh Shetty, president of the Bangalore Orthopaedic Society.

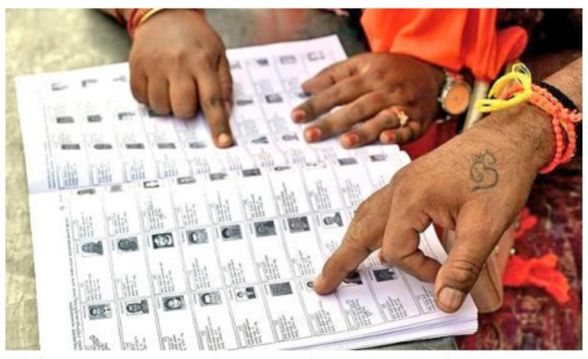
Shantharam Shetty, pro-chancellor, Nitte University, and past president of the Indian Orthopaedic Association, said the orthopaedic practice must evolve as both an art and a science, combining clinical expertise with scientific validation rather than being driven by commercial considerations.

The event was organised in association with HOSMAT Hospitals.

‘Progeny’ mapping hits 100% in 19 Karnataka districts

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

While the voter mapping under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) remains incomplete across Karnataka, ‘progeny’ mapping has crossed 100% in at least 19 districts, with Kodagu and Udupi reporting over 120%, according to official data as of April 1.



While progeny mapping has crossed 100% in several districts, the ‘total mapped electors’ figure, even after including progeny, remains below the 2025 totals. FILE PHOTO

Progeny refers to younger voters added and linked to existing electors, with more voters being mapped than initially estimated in these districts. Overall, 70.84% of eligible electors with cut off age (18 years or older) have been covered so far, while Bengaluru Urban stands at 62.67% in the same category. Across the State, 82.75% of electors have been mapped, including progeny. A senior official said that while progeny mapping has crossed 100% in several districts, the ‘total mapped electors’ figure, even after including progeny, remains below the 2025 totals.

And exceeding 100% in progeny reflects that more younger voters have been linked to existing electors than initially expected, which can happen due to late verification, or delayed updates.

However, an official involved in overseeing the exercise said that the total number of electors is based on the 2025 voter list, and hence no new voters should have been added during the voter roll mapping. In several districts such as Bagalkot, Gadag, Tumakuru, Hassan, Dakshina Kannada and 15 other districts, progeny mapping has exceeded 100%, further pointing that the figures may suggest anomalies, duplicate entries, or misreporting. It could also be system errors, he said.

Groups raise concerns

With Kodagu reporting an overall mapped electoral percentage of 91.37% (including progeny), groups like Adivasi Sangharsh Morcha have pointed out that while some mapping may have been completed fairly, a significant number of families in the plantation belts remain unmapped. The group urged the Chief Electoral Officer and the State government to take timely action to provide missing documents such as Aadhaar cards, ST certificates, and birth certificates.

They also called on the Election Commission to conduct a house-to-house survey of Adivasi hamlets, line houses, households, and informal settlements to record the documents residents already possess and identify those they need for inclusion in voter rolls. The survey, they stressed, must also address discrepancies in spellings across documents.

Advocate Clifton D’Rozario, working with the ‘My Vote, My Right’ initiative, raised concerns about terms such as “system verified” and “system suggested mapping yet to be verified by BLO,” questioning who is responsible for the mapping and how such a large part of the exercise can be marked complete with limited verification.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client intends to purchase land morefully described in the schedule hereunder from its present owner Mrs.Geethy Xavier @ Geethy John, Wife of Mr.John Ayyamkulam Louis. If any person/s or any authority having any right, title and interest or objections over the Schedule Property may lodge their claims/objections in writing supported by relevant documents within 10 days from the date of publication. In case of no objections or claims within the aforesaid period my client shall presume that there are no claims/objections for purchase.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.3, Old House List Katha No.180/1, presently bearing E-Aasthi PID No.6200203993, carved out of Survey Nos.87/3 and 87/4, measuring East to West 63 Feet and North to South 40 Feet, totally measuring 2520 Square Feet along with residential building consisting of Ground and First Floor, situated at Manjunatha Layout, Horamavu Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently Bangalore East Taluk, bounded on the:

East By : 30 Feet Road
West By : Private Property;
North By : Property bearing Site No.2;
South By : Property bearing Site No.3;

Satya Narayana Reddy, Advocate,
SNR Law Chambers,
No.22, 1st Floor, 10th Main, 100 Feet Road, 1st Block, HRBR Layout, Banasawadi, Bangalore-560 043.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client **Deepto Choudhury,** S/o. Subhra Kumar Choudhury, Residing at Flat No.C-10121, C4-Wing, Assetz East Point, Bhoganahalli, Bangalore 560 103 has lost the Original Memorandum, Relating to Deposit of Title Deed vide dated 1.7.2017, **Document No.SHV-1-01997/2017-18 of Book I, stored in C.D.No.252,** in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar, Bangalore, Mr.Ganapathi Ajay Korimilli in favour of SBI in respect of Flat No.C-10121, in the 12th Floor, Block C, C4-Wing, in the Apartment Building known as Assetz East Point, Bhoganahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore 560 103.
Further, a complaint has been lodged on 4.4.2026 to this effect, which has been duly acknowledged vide Lost Report **No.2138982/2026,** Police Unit: Bengaluru City. Persons finding the said Original Deed may kindly return the same to the undersigned and if any one has any objections in this regard, may lodge their objections/claims with documentary evidence within 10 days from the date of publication to the undersigned.

Sd/- Shanti L, Advocate (9945003212)
Ashwini Law Associates
Advocates & Legal Consultants,
Domlur, Bangalore

ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಶಿಮನಪಾಶಿ/ಕಾ.ವಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/57/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 31.03.2026

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆಕ್ಟ್ 1999 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಚಿಸುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು

1) ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:**02.05.2026** (ಸಂಜೆ: 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ). 2) ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **04.05.2026** (ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ). 3) ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ್ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **05.05.2026** (ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ)

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ/ಸೇವೆಯ ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.
1.	56311	Restoration and continuation work of Poura Karmika Housing Block no.09 and 11 in Shivamogga City Corporation limits	314.00	3,98,000/–
2.	55923	Restoration and continuation work of Poura Karmika Housing Block no.04,06,16 in Shivamogga City Corporation limits	478.00	6,06,000/–
3.	56966	Restoration and continuation work of Poura Karmika Housing Block no.01 and 14 in Shivamogga City Corporation limits	294.00	3,73,000/–

ಸೂಚನೆ: 1. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಅಥವಾ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯನ್ನು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೇ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ./ಶಿ/ನಂ.21.04/ರ್ಫೀಂಕಾರ್/2026–27

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ನೀಸ&ಒಚ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ, ಪಾವಿನೀಸ ಆವರಣ, ಯಾದವಗಿರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು–570020

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾಇಂ/ನೀಸ&ಒಚ(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ)/ಸ.ಅ/ಟಿಎನ್–01/01/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.04.2026

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ/ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ KTPP ನಿಯಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ವಿವರ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ
				ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	Kw-1,Kw-2,Kw-3 & Service Tender	08 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	154.54	04.04.2026	21.04.2026	22.04.2026
2	Kw-1&Kw-2	03 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	81.64	04.04.2026	13.04.2026	15.04.2026
3	Kw-4	01 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	500.00	07.04.2026	22.04.2026	23.04.2026

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ/ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರರು
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/17/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ/2026–27 ನೀಸ&ಒಚ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE, AGRAM – POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677
Website: www.apsasc.edu.In

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tender are invited for **purchase of classroom furniture desks (chair and desk made of MS) at Army Public School ASC C&C.** Tender Enquiry/Form to be collected from school office after payment of ₹1000/- (DD in favour APS ASC Centre & College) till 23 Apr 2026. Last date to submit filled tender form is 24 Apr 2026 at 1100 hrs.

PO / Member 1
For Sch Mgt

Government of Karnataka
Karnataka Veterinary Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Nandinagar Bidar.

No.EO/KVAFSU/T.No148/Manpower/2026-27 Date:02.04.2026

SHORT TERM TEN DER NOTIFICATION
(e-Procurement portal only)

1) Works/ Goods / Services details Engaging non-teaching service personnel for Veterinary College, Puttur through outsourcing, 2) Works/ Goods / Services estimated Amount **Rs.70,31,480.00 per annum,** 3) Contractors eligibility details As mentioned e-portal, 4) Works/ Goods / Services Tender Amount Details **Rs.70,31,480.00 per annum,** 5) Cost of Tender form and EMD details As mentioned e-portal, 6) Pre-Bid Meeting at Office of the Estate Officer, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Nandinagar, Bidar 585226 **10.04.2026 at 11.00 AM,** 7) Last Date for submitting tender **15.04.2026** 8) Opening of Technical bid **17.04.2026,** 9) Verification of uploaded tender documents with originals. Bidder has to personally come with original tender documents for verification and also submit one set of notarized copies of the same to Estate Branch, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Nandinagar, Bidar 585226. Any agency/contractor who fail to submit original documents in person will be rejected. **22.04.2026 at 11.00 AM** (In case the above dateis declared as a holiday, verification will done on next working day) 10) Opening of Financial Bid **24.04.2026,** 11) For more details contact office address, contact No Office of the Estate Officer, KVAFSU, Nandinagar, Bidar 08482-245446, 12) Website details e-procurement portal KPP Portal (2nd Version)

DIPR/Bidar/03/KSMC&A/2026-27 **Sd/- Estate Officer KVAFSU, Bidar.**

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING
Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd Floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560 023 Telephone No.080-29557023 E-mail:**cekhsdrp@gmail.com**

No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1&3/AE-2, 3,6&9/TND /2026-27/40 Date:04.04.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible contractors registered in KPWD in two Cover tender document system through Karnataka Public Procurement portal for the following works.

Sl. No.	Description of works	Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Rs.in Lakhs)	Stipulated period for Completion (including monsoon)
1	Reconstruction of PHC Building at Tayuru in Nanjangudu Taluk, Mysuru District.	253.00	3.80	09 Months
2	Construction of Indoor Sports Complex and Gym for Students and Teaching Staff in the premises of Chamarajanagara Institute of Medical Sciences, Chamarajanagara.	359.00	5.38	09 Months
3	Providing Rain Water Harvesting System in the premises of Chikkamagaluru Institute of Medical Sciences Chikkamagaluru.	293.60	4.40	04 Months
4	Construction of 6 Bedded PHC (H-Type) at Kothadoddi Devdurga Taluk in Raichur District. (Call-2)	275.45	4.15	09 Months
5	Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Architectural, Structural and other services Design and Drawings for the work of Construction of 300 Bedded Teaching Hospital at Puttur Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District (Civil works only).	164.00	2.46	24 Months (Till the completion of the project)

Calendar of Events: (For Sl.No. 1-4): (1) Last date for receipt of tenders **:04.05.2026 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **05.05.2026 at 16.01 hrs.**
Calendar of Events: (For Sl.No. 5): (1) Last date for receipt of tenders**: 21.04.2026 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **22.04.2026 at 16.01 hrs.**
The tender details can be downloaded from the KPP portal platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and tender processing fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender

NOTE: 1. All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2. Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated only on KPP Portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

भौतिक अनुसंधान प्रयोगशाला, अहमदाबाद
(अंतरिक्ष विभाग, भारत सरकार)
Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad
(Department of Space, Government of India)

Admission to JRF Programme 2026

Advt. No. PRL/JRF/02-2026

Online Applications are invited for admission to Junior Research Fellowship Programme 2026

Important Dates

- Starting of filling up the online application form: 02-04-2026
- Last date for filling up the online application form: 30-04-2026
- Interview Dates: 8 to 11 June, 2026
- The upper age limit is **28** years as on **01.07.2026**

For more details and online application form please visit **https://www.prl.res.in/prl-eng/phd.**

DEAN, PRL

Police fix game day glitches ahead of high-voltage RCB-CSK clash

Among major changes, clearing footpath crowding has been prioritised; now, RCB has introduced a ticket-sharing feature

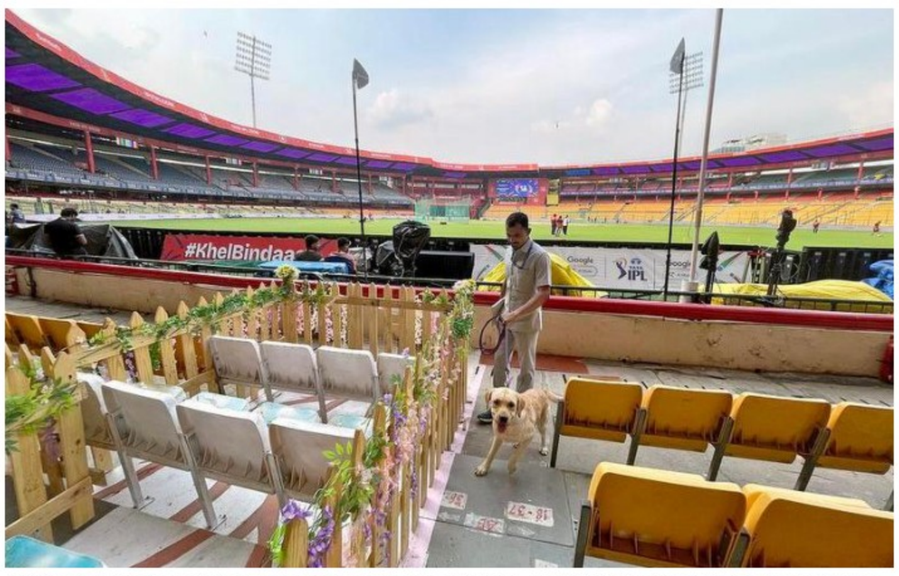
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ahead of the second IPL match at Bengaluru's M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday, the Bengaluru City Police (BCP) reimagined the previous game day of March 28, the IPL opening match for 2026, the first match held after the stampede at the Stadium that killed 11 in 2025, to address loopholes that emerged during the security deployment.

Entry gate maps for ticket holders, signage at metro stations, and ticket-sharing options are among the major interventions the police have suggested to stakeholders.

After the first match, the police roped in a group of people unfamiliar with the stadium area to conduct a drill around the venue and report the challenges they faced while navigating. Based on the inputs, the police prepared a report that formed the basis for improvements in signage and guiding banners. While some of them will be incorporated before the second match, the rest may take time, according to the sources.

The measures come ahead of a high-voltage clash between two dominant sides in the Indian Premier League, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Chennai Super Kings, at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday. The match between these two teams always sparks high emotions among fans.



Entry gate maps for ticket holders, signage at metro stations, and ticket-sharing options are among the major interventions the police have suggested to stakeholders. K. MURALI KUMAR

Among the major changes, clearing footpath crowding has been prioritised. During the last match, flying squads were seen clearing footpaths rather than taking action against people without tickets loitering around the stadium.

Changes to tickets

Due to a change in the gate entry system and with the addition of an extra layer of gates, spectators were seen confused and unable to find their designated entry points during the last match. This led to crowding on footpaths and spillover onto the roads.

A senior police officer, part of the state expert committee supervising the stadium overhaul, told *The Hindu* that they have suggested that RCB's ticketing partners send gate map links to spectators via WhatsApp.

"Once the ticketing partners integrate this feature, ticket holders will receive a WhatsApp message that they can access before the match to arrive at the stadium. This will help them navigate the route without any hurdles," the officer said.

In addition, many people who had purchased two tickets were seen waiting for others who had to accompany them. As there was no option to share tickets, such spectators remained outside the gates, increasing crowding at entry points.

Now, RCB has introduced a ticket-sharing feature for match attendees, available only through the official app. Fans can transfer their match tickets to friends or family members via the official ticketing portal by selecting seats and entering the recipient's mobile number, after which the m-ticket will be delivered via WhatsApp.

Each ticket can be shared only once and cannot be forwarded further, ensuring tighter control and authenticity. Additionally, recipients will be required to create their own password upon receiving the ticket.

According to the officer, the introduction of free metro tickets worked well, as it was the most preferred mode of transport during the last match. To build on this, the committee reviewed metro passenger data, including boarding hotspots, stations where most spectators disembarked, and the most used routes, which were all assessed through real-time variations in passenger numbers.

"We have asked RCB to work with BMRCL and BMTC to increase the frequency of buses on specific routes and to deploy volunteers at key hotspots to guide spectators so that accessibility becomes smoother," the officer said. In addition, the police will deploy more personnel at these locations to prevent any untoward incidents. Communication regarding shuttle buses to designated parking areas after the match had been a challenge; this time, spectators will receive advance information about shuttle bus services.

Due to a lack of time, partnering with cab aggregators had proved difficult last time, leading many drivers to violate designated pick-up and drop-off rules. This partnership will be implemented for the next match.

IPL: 70 stolen phones recovered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cubbon Park police have recovered 70 stolen mobile phones during the IPL match at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium last week after arresting 13 persons, including nine minors, all from Jharkhand.

The accused have been identified as Shubam Kumar, Eshal Kumar, 23, Sanjeeth Kumar, 24, and Sohan Kumar, all related to each other.

Investigations revealed that these four accused were in charge of at least two minors each. The accused had travelled separately through different modes of transport to avoid easy police detection in case one was caught. The accused are still in police custody, while the minors were presented before the Juvenile Justice Board and were being kept in a Government Observation Home.

After arriving in the city, the group stayed separately, and on match day, everyone was spread out around the stadium. "The misconception is that the stealing took place only inside the stadium, but it happened in multiple locations, specifically where the crowd had gathered in larger numbers," said Akshay Hakay Machhindra, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central).

"Those who lost phones reported to police officers in the stands, who then alerted officers outside the venue. From there, technical analysis and on-field inputs were used, leading to the detention of four persons," Mr. Machhindra said.

All four initially feigned innocence but were later found to be involved in the stealing spree. A breakthrough came when the police traced the identity of Shubam, who was seen with the detained minors. Based on local inputs, the police received a tip-off about Shubam staying at a city lodge.

"They wanted to leave the city the next day, but news about the large-scale theft of mobile phones had reached them," said Mr. Machhindra. Further, the police relied on information provided by Shubam during interrogation, which led them to the other accused.

Queuing up

MLAs' secretaries and their staff waiting outside the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker's Office at Vidhana Soudha to get their IPL tickets ahead of clash between RCB and CSK, in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Buying tickets in black for matches? New m-ticket system could land you in trouble

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Beware if you are planning to buy tickets for Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) matches through unofficial channels. The new m-tickets will not only assist the police in cracking down on sellers, but they can also put you at risk.

The State expert committee set up to supervise the overhaul of the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium ensured that 80% of the match tickets were sold in the form of m-tickets, which helps in curbing black-marketing.

The m-ticket system works like this: a person can buy only two tickets at a time, which will be shared with the buyer through online means. This m-ticket becomes valid only when a QR code is generated for it, which happens only five hours before the match. Interestingly, a ticket can be opened only through a passcode.

If a person enters the stadium using the ticket, the code of that particular ticket is erased at the second-layer turnstile gates. K. MURALI KUMAR

Given that it is an m-ticket, a fraudster can send the same ticket to multiple people, claiming it to be original. So, if one person enters using the ticket, the code of that particular ticket is erased at the second-layer entry gates, which are turnstile gates.

At this point, if the same QR code is used again, the gates will not open, and security will immediately detain the person trying to enter. A senior police officer explained that the trail of digital tickets would ensure that the actual ticket buyer can also be tracked down.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, APR. 05	
RISE 06:13	SET 18:31
RISE 21:18	SET 08:06
MONDAY, APR. 06	
RISE 06:13	SET 18:31
RISE 22:11	SET 08:51
TUESDAY, APR. 07	
RISE 06:12	SET 18:31
RISE 23:03	SET 09:39

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	15
Mysuru	34	20
Bengaluru	34	23

Bengaluru Today
33°C The weather will be warm. Night will be slight cool. Short spell of light rain and thundershower is a chance at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
34°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Spell of rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur.

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THE HINDU
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'New generation may have to change their careers at least three or four times'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

"Nearly a quarter of those in the professional market may be jobless in 2027. These 25% will have to think about their new domains," said Binay Kumar Das, Director General (Electronics and Communication Systems), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

In his convocation address at the fifth annual convocation of Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University on Saturday, he said, "The new generation may have to change their careers at least three or four times."

"Tectonic shifts are happening everywhere. Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine learning, Blockchain as the next internet, augmented reality, Internet of Things, Metaverse and Web 3.0 are the buzz words of today. Chat GPT is all set to rule the tech world. Under this situation be prepared for changes. You need to adapt to changes and march forward," he said. He further said that India was tipped off to become the third largest economy, and to take India to this level, we need to change our thinking. "We need to enhance our exports. We need to design our products with such perfection that it becomes the object of desire for everyone around the globe," he said. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot said that the role of youth was key to achieve the national objective of making India a developed country by 2047.

(From left): Gold medalists Divyasree S, Abhishek Sriram, and Sneha T. during the fifth annual convocation of Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University in Bengaluru on Saturday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Honorary doctorates were conferred on former Indian cricketer B.K. Venkatesh Prasad, music composer Arjun Janya, educationists T.K. Narayanappa and Mohan Alva, Congress MLC K. Govindaraj, and industrialist and JD(S) former MLC B.M. Farooq.

A total of 37,393 degrees were awarded, including 64 gold medals. A total of 71 students secured ranks, 23 students were awarded PhDs, 7,484 postgraduate degrees and 29,880 undergraduate degrees. Gold medalists Divyasree S., Abhishek Sriram, and Sneha T. received their awards during the event.

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
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(A Central University under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008
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044-2453 9027/28

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Close contest between 3-time MLA and new face with family legacy

Nine candidates in the fray, but real fight is between BJP's Viranna Charantimath and Congress' Umesh Hullappa Meti

Rishikesh Bahadur Desai
BELAGAVI

The Bagalkot Assembly Constituency, which encompasses the city and surrounding areas, is facing bypolls owing to the death of former Minister H.Y. Meti. There are nine candidates in the fray, but the real fight is between Veerabhadrayya aka Viranna Charantimath of the BJP, a three-time legislator, and first-timer Umesh Hullappa Meti of the Congress. It is expected to be a close contest.

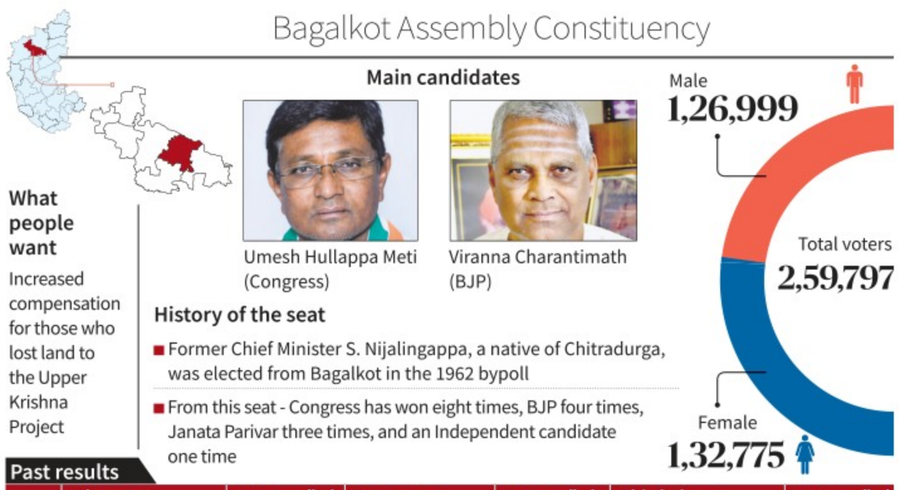
The Congress leadership faced some difficulty in choosing its nominee as three of the four children of the late Meti – Mallikarjun, Umesh, and Mahadevi – were aspirants.

Finally, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah convinced the siblings to back Umesh, the younger son. Party sources say this was because a pre-poll survey had indicated that he had a better chance. "Mr. Umesh used to handle grievances of rural voters, and Mr. Mallikarjun handled the city when their father was the MLA. We are banking on rural votes, and thus the choice of Mr. Umesh was clear," said a Congress leader.

BJP leaders say they hope to leverage the recent law and order disturbance following the stone-pelting on a Shivaji Jayanti procession to consolidate Hindu votes. However, none of the saffron party campaigners have raised this matter in public yet.

Satish Jarkiholi, a Congress leader who is among those in charge of the Bagalkot bypoll campaign, told reporters recently that this incident would have minimal impact. "In fact, it has helped the Congress by uniting our factions," he claimed.

Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, expelled BJP leader, has joined the campaign "for the cause of Hindutva" and to honour his friendship with Mr. Charantimath. "Initially, the BJP leadership had hesitated to involve Mr. Yatnal, a fierce critique of party president B.Y. Vijayendra, as it feared embarrassment to the family and supporters of B.S. Yediyurappa. However, they managed to convince Mr. Vijayendra after consulting some senior leaders," said a BJP leader.


Bagalkot Assembly Constituency
Main candidates
Umesh Hullappa Meti (Congress)
Viranna Charantimath (BJP)
What people want
Increased compensation for those who lost land to the Upper Krishna Project
History of the seat
Former Chief Minister S. Nijalingappa, a native of Chitradurga, was elected from Bagalkot in the 1962 bypoll
From this seat - Congress has won eight times, BJP four times, Janata Parivar three times, and an Independent candidate one time
Male 1,26,999
Total voters 2,59,797
Female 1,32,775

Past results

	Winner	Votes polled Vote share	Runner-up	Votes polled Vote share	Third place	Votes polled Vote share
2018	Viranna Charantimath (BJP)	85,653 53.03%	H.Y. Meti (Congress)	69,719 43.17%	Mohan Mallikarjun Jigalur (BSP)	996 0.62%
2023	H.Y. Meti (Congress)	79,336 46.57%	Viranna Charantimath (BJP)	73,458 43.12%	Mallikarjun Charantimath (Ind.)	10,116 5.94%

Viranna Charantimath, BJP nominee, campaigning in Bagalkot recently; Umesh Hullappa Meti, Congress candidate, campaigning in Bagalkot with the support of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. FILE PHOTO

In his Budget speech, the Chief Minister set aside funds for the government medical college in Bagalkot. BJP nominee Viranna Charantimath criticised it and said the first announcement was made in 2016, but the Congress had failed to set up the college. Congress leaders have countered this, saying it was Mr. Charantimath who had stalled it to protect the interests of a medical college run by his society.

Increase in electors

The constituency has seen a five-fold increase in the number of electors between 1952 and 2026. There were 49,168 voters in the first general election and the number has risen to 2,59,797.

On an average, there has been an increase of 20,000 voters every five years after 2008, which coincided with the delimitation. Before that, the increase in the number of voters between two polls was an average of 10,000.

for those who lost land to the Upper Krishna Project.

This issue has dominated polls here for several decades.

Another issue is the plan to expand the irrigated area for the implementation of the third phase of the project.

During their recent visit to the city, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister and Irrigation Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced that they will spend over ₹30,000 crore on the third phase and resolve issues relating to compensation.

Drinking water scarcity reported in 324 villages across 60 taluks in 20 districts: Priyank

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

During summer, many water sources dry up and borewell yield reduces. FILE PHOTO

Drinking water scarcity has been reported in 324 villages across 60 taluks in 20 districts of the State, said Priyank Kharge, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, and Information Technology & Biotechnology.

The Minister said in a release on Saturday that water is being supplied to 76 villages through 76 tankers, while 248 villages are being given water by leasing 280 private borewells.

"To address urgent requirements, ₹60 crore has already been allocated to districts. Additionally, ₹48 crore has been released towards clearing pending bills of works undertaken by the task forces in March 2026. Further, ₹14.50 crore has been allocated for the repair of purified drinking water units," the Minister stated.

Officials at district, taluk, and gram panchayat levels, including Chief Executive Officers of zilla panchayats, are continuously monitoring and conducting regular review meetings to ensure uninterrupted supply, he said.

"Water quality testing is being carried out across villages and habitation areas using field testing kits. In cases where water quality exceeds permissible limits, samples are being re-tested in nearby laboratories. Where contamination is confirmed, alternative safe drinking water sources are being arranged," Mr. Kharge said.

The State has 26,676 villages across 31 districts, with 57,883 habitation areas covering over 1.01 crore households. During summer, many water sources dry up and borewell yield reduces. To address this, daily monitoring systems have been put in place, and emergency drinking water works are being undertaken to ensure supply during drought-like conditions, the release said.

"Priority is given to leasing private borewells wherever drinking water scarcity arises in rural areas. If required, water will be supplied through tankers. Efforts are also being made to resolve issues through flushing and deepening of borewells. New borewells will be drilled only in unavoidable circumstances and strictly based on geologist reports," the Minister said.

To strengthen preparedness, review meetings are being held every second and fourth Monday with Panchayat Development Officers (PDOs) and zilla panchayat CEOs, he said. Additionally, 24/7 control rooms have been established in all zilla panchayats, and Rapid Task Forces have been formed at the taluk level, he added.

Surjewala condemns Pratap Simha's remark against CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Randeep Singh Surjewala

Randeep Singh Surjewala, AICC general secretary incharge of Karnataka, on Saturday condemned Pratap Simha, BJP leader and former MP, over the latter's "vile remark" against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Bagalkot, saying it once again exposes the BJP's "despicable politics".

Mr. Simha had allegedly made some intemperate and communal remarks aimed at the Chief Minister in the course of the bypoll campaign.

Stating that Mr. Simha's outburst against the Chief Minister stemmed from desperation, Mr. Surjewala alleged that the BJP was "deliberately using a former MP to insult the Chief Minister and send a message to backward classes, Scheduled Castes (SCs), and minorities that they were inferior and subjugated". Such conduct, he said, reflects a "complete bankruptcy of ideas, ethics, and leadership" within the party.

In a post on X, Mr. Surjewala said, "This is the same Pratap Simha who, in the past, repeatedly referred to the elected Karnataka government as a 'Taliban government' at the behest of the BJP leadership at the Centre."

Accusing BJP leaders of being habitual offenders in spreading "poisonous" discourse, he said the party's frustration over the Davangere South and Bagalkot Assembly bypolls stems from public rejection and the prospect of imminent defeat on April 9.

Mr. Surjewala also demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and State BJP leaders issue a public apology to Kannadigas – particularly Other Backward Classes, SCs, and minorities – for the "disparaging and intolerable" remarks made by Mr. Simha against Mr. Siddaramaiah. He further called for the registration of an FIR against Mr. Simha and for strict action to be taken against him.

Meanwhile, despite the BJP leadership expelling its MLA, Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, for six years, he has continued campaigning for the party in Bagalkot, Mr. Surjewala said.

Will stand with State govt. on development issues: HDK

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union Minister H.D. Kumarwamy, during a roadshow at Sindhanur ahead of the inauguration of the new Sainik School, in Raichur on Saturday. Nara Lokesh, Andhra Pradesh's Information Technology and Human Resource Development Minister, is also seen. ANI

Janata Dal (Secular) leader and Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries H.D. Kumaraswamy said that development should remain above political considerations, adding that he will stand with the State government on matters of development.

Speaking after inaugurating the newly established Sainik School at the Shri Krishnadevaraya Education Society in Sindhanur town of Raichur district on Saturday, Mr. Kumaraswamy said that several development initiatives are required across Raichur district and other parts of Karnataka, and called for all stakeholders to work together, setting aside political differences. He said he remains accessible and committed to contributing to the State's progress.

While politics may differ, development must remain a shared priority, he said, expressing support for the proposals raised by Hampanagouda Badarli, MLA, and Kumar Naik, MP, to bring industries to the region and create employment opportunities.

He highlighted the need for an All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Raichur and the proposal for the construction of the Navile reservoir alongside the Tungabhadra reservoir, noting that these are significant projects requiring coordinated efforts.

Sanjay Seth, Minister of State for Defence, and Nara Lokesh, Andhra Pradesh's Information Technology and Human Resource Development Minister, were also part of the event.

On the issue of the proposed Navile reservoir, Mr. Kumaraswamy clarified that such a complex and sensitive matter should not be placed on the shoulders of Mr. Lokesh alone. He pointed out that silt accumulation in the Tungabhadra reservoir has significantly reduced its storage capacity, affecting irrigation and agricultural productivity.

The former Chief Minister emphasised that inter-State water issues require careful handling, dialogue, and mutual trust. He cautioned against politicisation and stressed the importance of cooperation between Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh to arrive at a sustainable solution.

KPME is nodal agency for integrating health services with KUM portal: Govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has designated the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments (KPME) authority as the State Nodal Agency (SNA) for integrating health-related regulatory services with the Karnataka Udyoga Mithra (KUM) deregulation portal, as part of its Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) initiatives.

According to a Government Order (GO) issued on April 2, the move is aimed at streamlining, digitising and enabling single-window delivery of regulatory approvals and licences across the Health Department.

As per the order, the Deputy Director in charge of KPME will function as the State Nodal Officer (SNO), serving as the principal point of contact between the Health Department and the KUM/EoDB team. The KPME authority will oversee service digitisation, portal integration and the rollout of a single-window system for health-related regulatory processes.

The SNO has been tasked with on-boarding all health regulatory services onto the platform and routing applications to the respective competent authorities for further action.

The order also mandates the preparation of a comprehensive, classified list of all State and Central services offered by the department, to be shared with the KUM/EoDB team.

Proposal for diversion of over 10 acres of forest land for Sigandoor temple activities cleared

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA

The Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) of Shivamogga Wildlife Division has recommended the diversion of 4.19 hectares (10.35 acres) of forest land, part of the Sharavati Valley Lion-Tailed Macaque Sanctuary, at Bramanavada Kalasavalli village in Sagar taluk. The Sri Sigandoor Chowdamma Devi Temple trust, which manages the Sigandoor Chowdeshwari Temple, had submitted a proposal seeking the forest land for its activities.

Prasanna Krishna Patagar, DCF (Wildlife), inspected the site and, in his site inspection report dated March 25, 2026, stated, "The proposal may be considered for approval." He said that the structures for which the land was sought "already existed". The proposed development would generate employment and support locals.

The Sigandoor temple in Sagar taluk. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The temple is a pilgrim site; thousands of devotees visit the temple daily," the report stated. Now, the proposal is pending before the nodal officer of Karnataka.

Ravi Kumar H.R. had submitted the proposal to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and also approached the State and national wildlife boards for recommendations. The trust sought the land for the development of the temple, guest houses, a toilet complex, a dining hall, residential quarters for staff, a parking area, a hotel, a shopping complex, and concrete roads.

The DCF, in his report, noted that the temple was originally located at Shiragalale village, about 3 km from the present location.

However, the place was submerged during the construction of Linganmakki Reservoir in 1963. Two years later, a small temple was built at the present location. Later, in February 1990, the temple structure was extended and consecrated under the leadership of S. Ramappa, trustee. In 2016, it came under the Shivamogga Wildlife Division, the report stated.

'Have stated facts'

When *The Hindu* contacted Mr. Patagar, the officer stated, "The structures for which the proposal was submitted have been in existence since 1990. The trust was in possession of the land well before the area became a deemed forest as per a Supreme Court judgment. I have stated the facts in my report," he noted.

With regard to a writ petition pending before the Karnataka High Court seeking the removal of encroachments, the officer said that he had cited the pending court case in his report and also reported the violations.

The applicant had sought forest clearance and wildlife clearance, as the land is located in the wildlife area. The State Wildlife Board, according to the DCF, has recommended the proposal for consideration, subject to the court's verdict.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

REMEMBRANCE FIRST ANNIVERSARY

SHRI RAVI GHANTASALA
20.12.1953 - 05.04.2025
S/o. Musician Padmashri Shri Ghantasala Venkateswara Rao
Fondly Remembered by :
Parvathi Ravi Ghantasala, Mohinder, Vaishnavi, Samiksha & Family. Ph: 98401 57090

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

INBRIEF

Sexual abuse: director Ranjith sent to 3 days' police custody

The Ernakulam Judicial First Class Magistrate Court, Kerala, on Saturday sent Malayalam filmmaker Ranjith, who was earlier arrested in connection with a case of sexual abuse following a complaint filed by a woman actor, to police custody for three days. His bail application will be considered on April 7. The prosecution has argued that his police custody was required in view of the "serious nature" of the alleged crime.

Devotees fall ill after having 'badam milk' at village festival

Festive atmosphere at the Kondamma Thalli Utsavams in Singupuram village near Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh took a distressing turn this week, with several devotees falling ill after consuming 'badam milk' sold by a local vendor. The April 1-2 incident prompted a swift response after reports of food poisoning, though District Collector Swapnil Dinakar Pundkar said only 18 cases were officially recorded, despite rumours of nearly 80 affected.

A.P. man 'murders' daughter for marrying against his will

A 22-year-old woman was strangled to death allegedly by her father in Palnadu district, Andhra Pradesh after she married against the family's wishes. Choudeswari died on March 18, and the case was initially suspected to be a death by suicide. But, the post-mortem report, which came out on Saturday, indicated that it was not the case. As per sources, Chowdeswari had escaped from home and married one Nagaraju, against her family's wishes. Police has taken her father Chandra Sreenu into custody. Probe is on.

UDF fighting combined force of LDF, BJP in Kerala: Rahul

Congress leader says 'shameful' for CM Pinarayi Vijayan to be 'aligning with right-wing forces'; he adds that biggest proof of 'hidden tie-up' is silence of PM Modi on the Sabarimala gold theft case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday called Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan a "right-wing puppet" who will act precisely as instructed by them.

The Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha was addressing public meetings in Ernakulam where Mr. Gandhi alleged that while the Chief Minister and his family were "rolling in money", Kerala remained trapped in debt exceeding ₹6 lakh crore.

Mr. Gandhi said that the United Democratic Front (UDF) is fighting the combined force of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Left Democratic Front (LDF) in the forthcoming Kerala Assembly election.

Star campaigner: Rahul Gandhi with UDF candidates at a campaign meet at Fort Kochi, Kerala, on Saturday. THULASI KAKKAT

He alleged that the partnership between the LDF, BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) was the "hidden hand" in this election. "They have money and power on their side, but the UDF has truth and its connection with the people," he said.

"The biggest proof of this is the silence of the Prime Minister – who otherwise speaks about temple, god and religion wherever he goes – on the Sabarimala gold theft case in Kerala," Mr. Gandhi said.

"The Left no longer stands for ideological purity but for power. That is why they are partnering with the most vile political forces in the country. How shameful that your CM, after all his so-called training in the Left, is aligning with these forces," he said.

Congress moves EC against Kairali over 'defamation'

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
All India Congress Committee has moved the EC against the CPI(M)'s Kerala mouthpiece channel, Kairali, for allegedly disseminating fabricated photos to defame AICC general secretary K. C. Venugopal.

Temples cannot be used for politics: Revanth

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said that political meetings, party flags and demonstrations should not be permitted in temple surroundings, and spiritual values must take precedence in such sacred spaces. He directed officials to implement Tirumala-style regulations in and around major temples across the State.

At a review meeting on the development of Gnana Saraswati Temple in Basara on Saturday, he said that temples and their premises cannot be made political platforms and officials must ensure measures to curb such activities.

Revanth Reddy

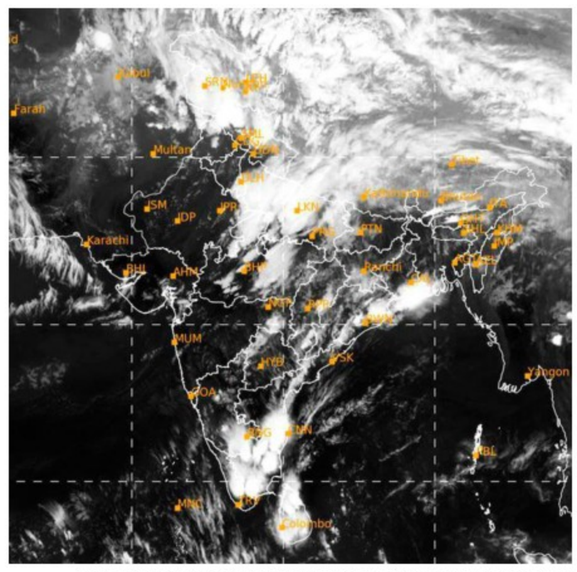
Officials made a PowerPoint presentation on the master plan for the Basara temple's development, informing him that the project is estimated to cost ₹225 crore. After examining the plan, the Chief Minister suggested several modifications.

He instructed that development works be undertaken in accordance with temple traditions and scriptures, while giving utmost importance to devotees' sentiments. Keeping in view future requirements and increasing pilgrim footfall, he directed that wide approach roads be constructed. He also asked officials to ensure extensive plantation within the temple premises.

He further proposed the construction of a health centre near the temple to provide medical services to devotees, especially during Pushkarams and major festivals, with adequate deployment of doctors and medical staff. Mr. Reddy ordered that all vehicles must be parked outside the premises and only electric vehicles must be allowed inside. He also suggested installing a solar rooftop at the parking area.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.6	26.2	Kozhikode	16	34.3	24.8
Ahmedabad	—	34.6	23.8	Kurnool	—	39.5	27.6
Aizawl	—	33.7	19.8	Lucknow	—	35.6	22.2
Allahabad	5.6	36.2	22.2	Madurai	—	40.0	25.6
Bengaluru	—	31.8	23.4	Mangaluru	—	33.2	26.2
Bhopal	—	35.2	21.8	Mumbai	—	32.9	22.7
Bhubaneswar	—	38.8	25.9	Mysuru	—	34.0	20.0
Chandigarh	4	30.8	17.4	New Delhi	0.5	32.0	20.7
Chennai	—	36.3	26.9	Patna	—	37.8	25.5
Coimbatore	—	35.0	25.4	Port Blair	—	32.2	25.2
Dehradun	0.2	30.1	18.9	Puducherry	—	34.0	27.2
Gangtok	—	22.5	15.5	Pune	—	36.6	21.2
Goa	—	33.1	24.7	Raipur	—	39.2	25.6
Guwahati	0.3	31.8	22.6	Ranchi	10	34.2	20.0
Hubballi	—	34.0	21.0	Shillong	—	26.4	15.6
Hyderabad	—	36.8	25.4	Shimla	5	21.6	12.0
Imphal	—	30.9	22.8	Srinagar	25	16.3	8.5
Jaipur	—	31.0	21.6	Thiruvananthapuram	3	36.1	25.0
Kochi	4	31.2	25.4	Tiruchi	—	39.3	27.2
Kohima	—	23.4	16.0	Vijayawada	—	37.0	24.7
Kolkata	—	37.4	27.7	Visakhapatnam	—	32.9	27.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.85	.78	52	51	123	
Bengaluru	.4	.57	36	84	111	
Chennai	.6	.13	29	41	49	
Delhi	.26	.31	72	181	112	
Hyderabad	.17	.15	35	69	95	
Kolkata	.33	.35	64	60	84	
Lucknow	.6	.46	28	214	137	
Mumbai	.3	.10	40	35	116	
Pune	—	.92	94	84	104	
Visakhapatnam	.40	.35	19	25	83	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Tonk, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 268 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Department of Health & Family Welfare
KARNATAKA STATE AIDS PREVENTION SOCIETY
Arogya Soudha, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Magadi Road,
Bengaluru - 560 023. Tel: 080-2955 7021
E-mail: pdksaps@gmail.com
No: KSAPS/CST/07/2025-26 **Date: 01.04.2026**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Two Cover) (Call-3) through e-Procurement

Tender (Two Cover) Call-3 are invited Transportation of Blood Samples from selected ART Centers to Designated Viral Labs through e-Procurement. Tender Terms & conditions are available in e-Procurement website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Last date for submission of tender on e-Procurement platform **on or before 24.04.2026 upto 5.30 p.m.**

Sd/- Project Director KSAPS, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/026/MAA/2026-27

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
No: KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3515/CALL-2 Date: 27.03.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tenders are invited through GoK e-procurement platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the work of **"Repair and retrofitting work of Natural Draught Cooling Tower-1 for the complete height above ground level at Raichur Thermal Power Station."** Approximate value of work (Rs. in Lakhs): **3190.00.** Earnest Money Deposit (Rs. in Lakhs): **31.90.** Period of Completion (Including Monsoon): **15 Months (Including Monsoon).** Class of Contractor: **KPWD Class-I and above contractor registered in Karnataka/Central Government or Registered firms/Companies/any under taking companies/individuals.**

Further details can be had from **Chief Engineer (Civi) Designs, 1st Floor, KPCL Green Building, Drug Controller's Office Premises, Placae Road, Bengaluru-560001.**

☎ : 08232-275663
ಪ್ರಧಾನಮಂತ್ರಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ -೫೭೧೪೦೨
पीएम श्री केंद्रीय विद्यालय,मंड्या-५७१४०२
PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA MANDYA - 571402
ई-मेल/E-mail: kvmandya@gmail.com वेबसाइट/Website: https://mandya.kvs.ac.in
के.वि.कोड/KV CODE: 2300 स्टेशन कोड/Station Code: 788 क्षेत्र कोड/ Region Code: 02 ज़ोन/Zone : दक्षिण/South
सीबीएसई संबद्धता संख्या/CBSE Affiliation Number: 800046 यू-डीआईएसई कोड /U-DISE Code: 29220801904

WALK–IN-INTERVIEW

Walk-In-Interview for preparing a panel of contractual teachers of the following subject for the Academic Session 2026-27 will be held on **10-04-2026 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Vidyalaya Premises. Registration time for the Candidates will be 9:30 am–10:00 am.

1.**TGT–** Hindi, Social Science,
2.Primary Teacher **(PRT)**
3.Sports Coach, Special Educator.

NOTE: - Interested and eligible candidates may appear with duly filled application form along with original certificates and photocopies of the required documents to the Vidyalaya premises on **10-04-2026 up to 09:30 a.m.**

- No TA/DA is payable for the interview.
- For downloading application form and more details regarding eligibility criteria, pay, terms and conditions of service etc. please visit the Vidyalaya website https://mandya.kvs.ac.in.

Note: Candidates willing to attend the walk-in-interview are mandatorily required to register themselves on the portal https://samvida-sathi.kvs.gov.in/

Sd/- PRINCIPAL

Government of Karnataka
Agriculture Department
OFFICE OF THE JOINT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
Center of Excellence Building, Behind National College, Vidya Nagar, HosapeteHarihar Road, Vijayanagara District-583203.Phone No.: 08394-200240
E-mail ID:jdavijayanagar@gmail.com
No. JDA.VNR/EST/10/2026-27/11 Date : 02.04.2026

Tender Advertisement

As per Joint Director of Agriculture and related sub Offices Tender for the year 2026-27 has called for KRISHI SANJEEVINI SCHEME – TECHINICAL ASSISTANT & DRIVERS. In two cover both (Technical & Financial) mode in the prescribed format for taking TECHINICAL ASSISTANT & DRIVERS outsource persons through Manpower Agencies, last date for participating is 10.04.2026upto 4:00 pm obtained through the website https://KPPP.Karnataka.gov.in, Further derails can be obtained for the said office during office hours

Tender No: AD/2026-27/SE0490
Sd/- Joint Director of Agriculture,Vijayanagara.
DIPR/Vijayanagar/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/09

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

Tender Notification
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Karnataka Housing Board invite tender from the eligible Pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for below mentioned work. Existing roads development works to KHB Layout at Rajapura Village, Periyapattana Taluk, Mysuru District. **WORK INDENT No.** KHB/2026-27/OW/Work_Indert No.735 & IFT No.: 1/2026-27 Date: 02.04.2026. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.1,62,40,193/-.

Last date for submission of bid: 16.04.2026 up to 4 PM

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511/080-22100077, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/67/AKAR/2026-27

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: CEE/Tr(Op)Z/KLB/SEE(O)/AEE-2/2026-27/111 Date: 02.04.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP mode only)

KPTCL invites bid from the eligible bidders against the **Bid Enquiry No: CEE/OPRZ/KLB/SEE(O)/AEE-2/2026-27/ Goods-1 /OLP Relay Dtd: 02.04.2026** Tender for "Procurement & Supply of 11kV OLP Relays of different voltage class for 11kV IP feeders in Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, Kalaburagi". **(Amt put to tender Rs. 1,07,49,798/-).**

The detailed Notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on or after **05.04.2026** to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyper Link 'E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Ele), Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan, Sedam Road, Kalaburagi-585 105.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, **Email ID:** eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

Short Term Tender Notification No. 01/2026-27 DATED: 02.04.2026

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD, South & Anekal Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP.

Tender Notification are Published for 03 Works **(Rs. 50.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

For Sl No. 01

1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 17.04.2026**

2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **18.04.2026 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For Sl No. 02 & 03

1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 10.04.2026**

2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **13.04.2026 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/59/ Zen/2026-27

Government of Karnataka
(Department of School Education)
Karnataka Text Book Society®
6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003
e-mail: **mdktbs.tender@gmail.com** Website: **https://textbooks.karnataka.gov.in**
No: A7/98529/KTBS/ADM/TBTR/9/2025-26/Part-1/KTBS/ 26-27/IND0019 **Date: 04.04.2026**

SHORT-TERM RETENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal only)

07 days Short term Re-Tender is invited under Two Bid System for the year 2026-27 on Government of Karnataka e-procurement platform from eligible printers, having Infrastructure as specified in the Tender Document to print and supply textbooks, to students of Government Schools. Package wise payable EMD details are mentioned under section 10 of the Re-tender document.

Eligible printers may offer their bidding up-to **5.30 PM on 11.04.2026.** Tender document is available in e-portal as well as department website.

E-procurement portal address: https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Portal Helpline: +91-9240214000 / +91-9240214001
Department Website: https://textbooks.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Managing Director, KTBS, Bengaluru.

KIDWAI MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY,
Cancer Research & Training Centre
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION (Regional Centre of Cancer Research & Treatment Member of International Union Against Cancer)
Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore-560029
Ph: +91 080-2656 0722/2656 0723, 080-6669 7999

No:KMIO/SME(1)/Tender/M.Equip/BB/463/2025-26 Date:04-04-2026

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Online Tenders are invited in Two Bid System for the following through GOK KPP Portal tender for Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology.

Sl No.	Tender No. & Date	Name of the Items
1	KMIO/SME(1)/Tender /M.Equip/BB/463/ 2025-26 Dt: 02.04.2026	Supply Installation and Commissioning of Medical Equipment to the Dept of Blood Bank (Estimated Cost:3.51 Cr) (Call-2)
2	KMIO/ACCTTender/ FD/499/2025-26 Dt: 17.03.2026	e-Auction of Fixed Deposit Callable (Estimated Budget:60 Cr) (Call-2)
3	KMIO/ACCTTender/ FD/500/2025-26 Dt: 17.03.2026	e-Auction of Fixed Deposit Non-Callable (Estimated Budget:40 Cr) (Call-2)

The Bid Document will be available in online from **06-04-2026** to **15-04-2026**, Bidders can view and download the Bid Document from the Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Bids have to be submitted through e-Procurement Portal and e-procurement Portal fees. The last date and time of Receipt of Bid through e-Procurement Portal is **15-04-2026** till **4:00 P.M.** Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/reject/ cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Financial Advisor

DIPR/SI/57/2025-26

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Shivajinagara Division, Thimmaiah Road, Queens Road, Bengaluru - 560052.

No: EE/SJN/E-PROC/02/2026-27 Date: 04-04-2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (Shivajinagara Division), BCCC, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Contractors registered in CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of Work detailed below. **(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Shivajinagara Constituency. **Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 368.07, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 5,52,500.00**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **13-04-2026 at 15.00 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Zone-2, BCCC, Annex-3, 4th Floor, GBA Office Compound, N.R. Square, Bengaluru. 3)** Last Date for Uploading the Filled Tender Document is **15-04-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid is **16-04-2026 at 16.30 Hours. 5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **After Technical Bid Approved.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shivajinagara Division, BCCC.

Government of Karnataka
Assistant Conservative of Forests, Wildlife Sub Division, Shivamogga
Ph. No.: 08182-222983 e-Mail: acfwlshimoga@gmail.com
No.: ACF/WSDS/CR- /2026-27 Date: 01.04.2026

Tender Notification

Tender is invited through e-procurement portal regarding supply of various Ration Items for Food to Elephants of the Department from 01.04.2026 to 31.03.2027 in the limits of Sakrebailu Wildlife Zone of Shivamogga Wildlife Division for the year 2026-27. Interested suppliers can participate in the Tender on the below mentioned date.

Sl.No. 1. Details of Work: Supply of Ration Items to Elephants of the Department in Gajanuru Elephant Camp, Sakrebailu Wildlife Zone **Approx. Amount inclusive of all taxes (Rs. In lakhs): 97.93315**

• Tender is invited for the works invited in the above schedule in expectation of the Grant being fixed by the Govern ment and the Grant being released. • Last date for submission of tender: 02.05.2026. Further information can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Assistant Conservative of Forests, Wildlife Sub Division, Shivamogga

DIPR/smg/ksmca/26-27/28/04/31

e-Auction process has commenced Time is of Essence

Bid Now!!

Minimum raise of Bid Price in multiples of Rs. 500 per sq. mtr.

The Bangalore Development Authority, Bengaluru, announces the e-Auction of Residential & Commercial Corner / Intermediate Sites. The auction / sale of these sites is conducted in accordance with the Bangalore Development Authority's Disposal of Corner Sites, Intermediate Sites and other Auctionable Sites Rules, 1984. The sites are auctioned on "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS.

Shri N.A. Haris
Hon'ble MLA, Shantinagar Assembly Constituency & Chairman BDA

Date of Commencement of e-Auction: 13.04.2026

Last date & time to express interest of participation in e-Auction: 22.04.2026, 5.00 p.m. IST

Date of commencement of Live Bidding For Sl. No. 1 to 53: 23.04.2026, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 24.04.2026 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimensions in Metres: East to West	Dimensions in Metres: North to South	Area in Sq. Mtr.
Chandra Layout 1st Stage, Gangondanahalli				
1	1656	12	9.10+10.50)/2	117.6
Chandra Layout 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Gangondanahalli				
2	1644/A	11.8	9.6	113.28
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 9620459111				
SMVL Further Extension, 7th Block, Gidadakonenahalli				
3	1781/2	12	10.5	126
4	1804/2	(12.00+12.23)/2	9	109.03
5	1429	12	9	108
6	1814	12	9	108
7	1189/1	12	8.45	101.4
SMVL Further Extension, 9th Block, Gidadakonenahalli				
8	1831/1	12	10	120
9	1864	(9.00+11.30)/2	(12.70+9.00)/2	110.12
10	1832/1	12	9	108
SMVL Further Extension, 7th Block, Gidadakonenahalli & Herohalli				
11	880	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 6362956998				
SMVL Further Extension, 7th Block, Herohalli				
12	253/43	12	9	108
13	253/44	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 9620459111				
Nandini Layout, J.B. Kaval				
14	309	12.2	(9.80+10.50)/2	123.83
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,10,000/-, Contact : 7975861995				
SMVL, 1st Block, Kengeri				
15	75	12	(7.10+12.70)/2	118.8
16	159/13	12	8.6	103.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 9620459111				
Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, 7th Block, Malagala				
17	389/7	12.12	10.6	128.47
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,31,250/-, Contact : 6362956998				
SMVL Further Extension, 9th Block, Mallathalli				
18	75	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 70000/-, Contact : 6362956998				
SMVL, 6th Block, Manganahalli				
19	2563	12	10	120
20	1968	(11.80+12.00)/2	(11.60+8.20)/2	117.81
21	2087	18	(6.10+6.80)/2	116.1
22	2556	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7975861995				
Jnanabharathi Layout, 1st Block, Nagadevanahalli				
23	1012	12.2	8.51	103.82
Jnanabharathi Layout, 2nd Block, Nagadevanahalli				
24	1027	12.2	10.3	125.66
25	1026	12.2	9.7	118.34
26	563	12.2	9.42	114.92
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 9620459111				
Jnanabharathi Layout, 3rd Block, Nagadevanahalli				
27	46	12.2	10.65	129.93
28	84	12.2	9.15	111.63
29	19	12.2	8.9	108.58
30	28	(12.29+12.26)/2	(8.01+8.90)/2	103.78
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 9620459111				
Nagarabhavi 1st Stage, Nagarabhavi				
31	1023	-	-	118.92
32	1029A	-	-	111.25
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,31,250/-, Contact : 6362956998				
Nagarabhavi 1st Stage Layout, Nagarabhavi				
33	1A	11.5	9	103.5
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,31,250/-, Contact : 6362956998				
SMVL, 2nd Block, Ramasandra				
34	1430	(9.90+9.50)/2	12	116.4
35	310	12	(12.00+9.50)/2	129
36	1431	(9.10+9.50)/2	12	111.6
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7349388238				
SMVL, 4th Block, Ramasandra				
37	2904	12	(10.80+10.00)/2	124.8
38	2945	10.50	12.00	126.00
39	512	6.8	18	122.4
40	2925	12	10.2	122.4
41	2904	12.00	10.20	122.40
42	503	6.75	18	121.5
43	1793	9.50	12.00	114.00
44	1755	9.00	12.00	108.00
45	2914	12.00	8.90	106.80
46	1747	8.60	12.00	103.20
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7349388238				
SMVL, 1st Block, Ramasandra				
47	2499	9.8	12	117.6
48	2378	10.5	12	126
49	3197	12	9.8	117.6
50	3154	12	(9.20+9.80)/2	114
51	3218	12	9.4	112.8
52	3100-2	8.5	12	102
53	3138	12	8.5	102
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7349388238				

Date of commencement of Live Bidding For Sl. No. 54 to 106: 24.04.2026, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 27.04.2026 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimensions in Metres: East to West	Dimensions in Metres: North to South	Area in Sq. Mtr.
West of Chord Road Layout, 4th Block, Saneguruvanahalli				
54	36	12.3	9.5	116.85
55	677/A	12.2	(8.20+9.80)/2	109.8
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,31,500/-, Contact : 7975861995				
SMVL, 3rd Block, Sonnenahalli				
56	2385-1	12	10.4	124.8
57	2603	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 6362956998				
SMVL, 4th Block, Sonnenahalli				
58	1102	(7.40+4.40)/2	18	106.2
59	1172	(9.70+7.70)/2	12	104
60	1171	(8.50+8.20)/2	12	100.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 6362956998				
SMVL, 6th Block, Ullalu				
61	735	12	(11.70+9.80)/2	129
62	1355	11	(11.00+11.40)/2	123.2
63	1449	18	6.4	115.2
64	145	12	9	108
65	3517	12	8.5	102
66	2385	(8.30+8.50)/2	12	100.8
67	2291	10.5	12	126
68	2255	9.3	12	111.6
69	2299	9	12	108
70	2277	9	12	108
71	2284	9.6	12	115.2
72	2278	8.7	12	104.4
73	2262	8.5	12	102
74	2263	8.6	12	103.2
75	2239	8.6	12	103.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7975861995				
SMVL, 3rd Block, Ullalu				
76	139	(11.10+6.10)/2	12	103.2
77	148	(7.10+11.20)/2	12	109.8
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7975861995				
SMVL, 5th Block, Ullalu				
78	95	10	12	120
79	2079	6.3	18	113.4
80	830	8.5	12	102
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7975861995				
SMVL, 6th Block, Ullalu & Manganahalli				
81	2573	12	9.8	117.6
82	2540	12	9.4	112.8
83	2597	(5.50+5.80)/2	18	101.7
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 7975861995				

Date of commencement of Live Bidding For Sl. No. 107 to 160: 27.04.2026, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 28.04.2026 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimensions in Metres: East to West	Dimensions in Metres: North to South	Area in Sq. Mtr.
Jnanabharathi Layout, 1st Block, Valagerahalli				
84	563A	15	8.5	127.5
85	563B	15	8.5	127.5
86	563C	15	8.5	127.5
87	878	9.14	12	111.5
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 96250/-, Contact : 9620459111				
Jnanabharathi Layout, 3rd Block, Valagerahalli				
88	393	19.15	10.7	111.63
89	394	11.15	10	111.5
90	390	9	12	108
91	418	9.3	11	102.3
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 96250/-, Contact : 9620459111				
HRBR, 1st Block, Banasawadi				
92	2HC264	16.1	(7.7+9.00)/2	134.43
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,58,000/-, Contact : 7026566550				
East of NGEF, Banasawadi				
93	2AC329	(6.5+16.00)/2	12	135
94	2AC-326	(13.00+12.00)/2	(16.00+9.00)/2	156.25
95	2CC-320	(8.00+11.50)/2	(12.00+14.00)/2	126.75
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,40,000/-, Contact : 7026566550				
East of NGEF, Benniganahalli				
96	1BC-319	(12.50+9.00)/2	(12.00+11.50)/2	126.31
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,40,000/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi, 18th Block, Byrathikhane				
97	655	(8.85+11.90)/2	(12.00+12.38)/2	126.47
98	718	12	(9.15+10.25)/2	116.4
99	624	9	12	108
100	711	12	(9.00+8.95)/2	107.7
101	710	12	(9.00+8.90)/2	107.4
102	BK43	(12.00+11.70)/2	9.02	106.88
103	BK42	(12.00+11.70)/2	9	106.65
104	692	12	(8.85+8.35)/2	103.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87250/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi, 19th Block, Challakere				
105	765	0.5x20.00	12	120
106	774	0.5x18.00	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87250/-, Contact : 8217795990				
RMV 2nd Stage, Geddalahalli				
107	215/B	15	0.5x18.00	135
RMV, Geddalahalli				
108	5	12.19	9.14	111.41
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,90,000/-, Contact : 8722433608				
HBR, 4th Block, Hennur				
109	1161/A	(5.94+10.00)/2	(18.28+18.59)/2	146.88
110	241/1	0.50x17.30	14.8	128.02
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,71,500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
HBR, Hennur				
111	1064/I1	9.14	12.19	111.41
112	1064/J1	9.14	12.19	111.41
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,71,500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
HBR, 5th Block, Hennur				
113	550	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,17,000/-, Contact : 8722433608				
114	1092	15.50/2	14.3	110.82
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,71,500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
Arkavathi, 20th Block, Hennur				
115	HN315	12	9	108
116	HN339	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
Arkavathi, 1st Block, Jakkur				
117	JK59	12.3	(9.25+10)/2	118.38
118	384A	24	(6.00+7.5)/2	162
119	413	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
Arkavathi 2nd Block, Jakkur				
120	2282A	18	(4.60+12.80)/2	156.6
121	JK166D	12	(8.45+13.30)/2	130.5
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
Arkavathi 5th Block, K. Narayanapura				
122	KNP363	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
123	45	(8.70+8.60)/2	12	103.8
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi 7th Block, Jakkur				
124	JK334	1) (10+9.8)/2 2)9.8	1) 8.00 2)0.5x15.00	152.7
125	32	(7.2+3.6)/2	24	129.6
126	367A	12	(16.60+7.70)/2	145.8
127	1402	18	6.4	115.2
128	375A	11.3	(7.30+16.60)/2	135.04
129	1419	18	(6.60+5.25)/2	106.65
130	306B	9	(14.20+9.30)/2	105.75
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi 8th Block, Jakkur				
131	694	(13.80+7.60)/2	12	128.4
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73500/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi 17th Block, K. Narayanapura				
132	KNP171	12.25	(8.60+7.95)/2	101.36
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 75,000/-, Contact : 8217795990				

Date of commencement of Live Bidding For Sl. No. 161 to 216: 28.04.2026, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 29.04.2026 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimensions in Metres: East to West	Dimensions in Metres: North to South	Area in Sq. Mtr.
HBR 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Kacharakanahalli				
133	341	13	12.19	158.47
HBR, 2nd Block, Kacharakanahalli				
134	508	(15.00+13.00)/2	8.4	117.6
135	349	(14.00+13.00)/2	9.14	123.39
136	350	(13.00+11.20)/2	9.14	110.59
137	351	(11.20+9.40)/2 & (1/2x4.90x9.40)/2	9.14	117.17
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,71,500/-, Contact : 8722433608				
Arkavathi 11th Block, Rachenahalli				
138	1122	18	(8.00+4.30)/2	110.7
139	RH266	9	12	108
140	RH-111	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 2nd Block, Sampigehalli				
141	SH257	18	8.5	153
142	1789	(13.00+12.40)/2	12	152.4
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 3rd Block, Sampigehalli				
143	SH75	12	(9.00+9.50)/2	111
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 14th Block, Thanisandra				
144	8A	18	(12.00+6.6)/2	167.4
145	50A	18	(12.00+5.5)/2	157.5
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 15th Block, Thanisandra				
146	TS487	18	(10.00+8.00)/2	162
147	521	15	(11.5+9.2)/2	155.25
148	TS1061	18	(7.2+10.00)/2	154
149	573	18	(7.5+8.2)/2	141.3
150	TS488	18	(6.00+8.00)/2	126
151	316	12	(12+13.2)/2	151.2
152	522	12	(8.4+10.2)/2	111.6
153	TS-384	12	(9.50+9.00)/2	111
154	TS401	12.18	(7.76+8.80)/2	100.85
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 20th Block, Thanisandra				
155	TS856A	(13.00+11.50)/2	12	147
156	TS854A	(8.2+12.5)/2	12	124.2
157	TS932	(6.00+11.50)/2	12	105
158	TS939A	(6.00+11.50)/2	12	105
159	1088	9	(12.2+12.00)/2	108.9
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 2nd Block, Venkateshpura				
160	1648B	(9.90+13.60)/2	(12.00+12.96)/2	146.64
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 75000/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi 8th Block, Venkateshpura				
161	989	12	(12.60+14.00)/2	159.6
162	971	18	(5.80+7.10)/2	116.1
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 75000/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi 3rd Block, Venkateshpura				
163	467/B	12	(9.30+10.00)/2	115.8
164	458	12	(9.70+9.40)/2	114.6
165	489/A	12	8.6	103.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 75000/-, Contact : 8217795990				
Arkavathi 20th Block, Thanisandra				
166	TS940A	(15.00+10.00)/2	12	150
167	TS541	(1) 3.2 (2) 18.6	(1)12.00(2)05X12	150
168	TS900	12	(13.00+8.2)/2	127.2
169	TS822	(1)1.40 (2) 15.3	(1) 12.00 (2) 05X12	108.6
170	TS549A	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 96250/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 15 & 20th Block, Thanisandra				
171	TS540	(1)3.6 (2)14.4	(1)12.00 (2)05X12	129.6
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 96250/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 15th Block, Thanisandra				
172	TS801	05x12	18.5	111
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 96250/-, Contact : 7026566550				
Arkavathi 18th Block, Byrathikhane				
173	435	12	(13.00+8.40)/2	128.4
174	625	(8.75+9.70)/2	12	110.7
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 8494933686				
Arkavathi 8th Block, Srirampura				
175	917	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 8494933686				
Arkavathi 2nd Block, Sampigehalli				
176	3187	18	(3.60+8.60)/2	109.8
177	2080A	24	0.50x8.80	105.6
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 87500/-, Contact : 8494933686				
Anjanapura Township 1st Block, Anjanapura				
178	400/A	12	(17.20+13.10)/2	181.8
179	365	12	(13.00+17.70)/2	184.2
180	332	(14.50+10.20)/2	12	148.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 64000/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Anjanapura Township 8th Block, Anjanapura				
181	743/A	(22.70+7.30)/2	24	360
182	755/A	(9.10+20.50)/2	18	266.4
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 88500/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Anjanapura Township 6th Block, Anjanapura				
183	1	15.8	(11.50+12.00)/2	185.6
184	08/A	18	(9.30+10.70)/2	180
185	9	9	(12.00+10.70)/2	102.15
186	27	(9.50+11.50)/2	18	189
187	68	11.2	18	201.6
188	76	(10.50+5.80)/2	18	146.7
189	89	18	(6.40+11.00)/2	156.6
190	107/C	6.5	18	117
191	145	(9.50+8.50)/2	12	108
192	152	(11.00+8.30)/2	12	115.8
193	159	(10.50+9.00)/2	12	117
194	171	(9.00+8.80)/2	12	106.8
195	172	(8.00+8.80)/2	12	100.8
196	210/D	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 71000/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Phase, 4th 'B' Block, BM Kaval				
197	446	12	18	216
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 4th 'B' Stage, 1st Block, BM Kaval				
198	509	24	(25.00+16.50)/2	498
199	477	18	(19.50+15.00)/2	310.5
200	442	(11.00+15.00)/2	18	234
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
BTM 4th Phase, 2nd Block, Devarachikkanahalli				
201	1219	12.19	(22.20+21.6)/2	266.96
202	875	(12.19+10.00)	12.19	135.24
203	927	18.28	(10.00+8.50)/2	169.09
204	928	(14.00+10.00)/2	9.14	109.68
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,30,000/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 11th Block, Ganakallu				
205	275	18	(7.00+11.00)/2	162
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 11th Stage, Ganakallu				
206	588	24	(12.00+2.00)/2	168
207	621	18	(12.00+15.00)/2	243
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 84000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Further Extension of Anjanapura, 9th Block, Gollahalli				
208	801/A	18	12	216
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 67500/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Further Extension of Anjanapura, 5th 'G' Block, Gollahalli				
209	872	12	18	216
210	873	12	18	216
211	897	12	18	216
212	913	15	24	360
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 67500/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Kumaraswamy 1st, Govinayakanahalli				
213	4185	10.2	(14.80+7.50)/2	113.73
214	4160	9	(6.80+17.00)/2	109.48
215	4161	8.9	(16.5+9.50)/2	115.7
216	4131	16	(10.50+2.00)/2	100
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,27,500/-, Contact : 9591964603				

Date of commencement of Live Bidding For Sl. No. 217 to 268: 29.04.2026, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 30.04.2026 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimensions in Metres: East to West	Dimensions in Metres: North to South	Area in Sq. Mtr.
Banashankari 6th Stage, 10th Block, Hemmigepura				
217	853	24	(12.37+20.30)/2	391.2
218	854	24	(12.2+5.3)/2	210
219	894	24	12	288
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 62300/-, Contact : 9880946840				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 3rd Block, Hemmigepura				
220	1940	(12.5+30.00)/2	12	225
221	1640/25	18	12	216
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 74100/-, Contact : 9880946840				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 4th Block, Hemmigepura				
222	647	9	12	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 72000/-, Contact : 9880946840				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 5th Block, Hemmigepura				
223	2061	(16.00+4.50)/2	12	123
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 72000/-, Contact : 9880946840				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 6th Block, Hemmigepura				
224	1860	(16.00+4.90)/2	12	125.4
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 72000/-, Contact : 9880946840				
Further Extension of Anjanapura, 11th Block, Kembathahalli				
225	982	18	(15.00+6.80)/2	196.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 1,00,000/-, Contact : 8310525317				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th Block, Lingadeeranahalli				
228	2520	(20.00+21.00)/2	18	369
Banashankari 6th Phase, 4th Block, Lingadeeranahalli				
229	1803	12	18	216
230	1802	12	18	216
231	1800	12	18	216
232	1773	12	(8.00+12)/2	132
233	1704	(9.00+12)/2	12	126
234	1500	(12.00+11.50)	12	141
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 5th Block, Lingadeeranahalli				
235	872	12	9.2	110.4
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 8th Stage, Sompura				
236	511	18	(14.40+4.30)/2	168.3
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 7th Stage, Sompura				
237	749	24	(12.40+21.50)/2	406.8
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th 'T' Block, Talaghattapura				
238	1963	12	19.5	234
239	1964	12	19.5	234
240	1966	12	19.5	234
241	1965	12	19.5	234
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 4th 'T' Stage, 1st Block, Talaghattapura				
242	1962	12	19.5	234
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Phase, 1st Block, Turahalli				
243	676	12.5	(21.50+19.00)/2	253.12
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 1st Block, Turahalli				
244	1096	18	(26.00+29.00)/2	495
245	100/J	9	12	108
246	100/K	9	12	108
247	100/L	15	12	180
248	100/F	9	12	108
249	100/G	9	12	108
250	225	9	12	108
251	382	9	12	108
252	393	(9.00+12.00)/2	12	130.8
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 2nd Block, Turahalli				
253	809/3	12	9	108
254	587	12	9	108
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 73000/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Phase, 4th 'B' Block, U.M. Kaval				
255	1216	24	13	312
256	1224/C	24	13	312
257	827	(22.00+13.00)/2	12	210
258	828	(13.00+10.00)/2	12	138
259	803/U	(16.00+15.00)/2	18	279
260	1123	18	16	288
261	1124	24	13	312
262	1155	24	15	360
263	1156	24	15	360
264	1200	24	15	360
265	1201	24	15	360
266	1215	24	12.5	300
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Banashankari 5th, Vaddarapalya				
267	31	9.3	12.19	113.36
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 5th Stage, 4th 'H' Block, Vaddarapalya				
268	141	9	12.8	115.2
Initial bid price per Sq.Mtr. is Rs. 69300/-, Contact : 9591964603				

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR e-AUCTION

(1)

From Page One

All States will benefit from delimitation: PM

Though there is no official word on it yet, the government has told representatives of parties that the proportion of individual States in the Lok Sabha, which is currently based on the 1971 Census, will remain unchanged after the delimitation.

"It is our government that has granted 33% reservation for women in both the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies. As you are all aware, instead of concluding the Budget Session as scheduled, we have extended it..... we have two specific tasks to accomplish. The first objective is to provide this guarantee (with regard to the fear of States losing Lok Sabha seats); the second is to ensure that the seats reserved for women are created as additional seats, thereby increasing the total number of seats. This would confer a tremendous benefit upon our States in south India," he said. Mr. Modi said the government was discussing the proposal with all parties. "We have extended an invitation to the Congress. I urge you, too – inform the public, speak to the Congress members, and convey this message to the LDF: the legislation regarding women's rights must be passed unanimously without opposition," he said.

"You must extract this promise from them; furthermore, I earnestly appeal to them myself – the rights of our mothers and sisters have remained in limbo for 40 years. They must not be left hanging once again during the 2029 elections. Therefore, I call upon the mothers and sisters of this nation to exert pressure on all political parties. Let everyone come to Parliament and ensure the passage of this vital legislation. With a view to increasing the representation of women in public office, necessary amendments will be incorporated into the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (Women's Empowerment Act)."

Indian firms procuring Iranian crude: Centre

The Ministry added: "It is reiterated that India's crude oil requirements remain fully secured for the coming months."

An Iranian crude oil carrier, *Ping Shun*, that had crossed the Strait of Hormuz and was signalling that it was heading to Vadinar, India, for the past three days, is now signalling it is headed for China, as per reports.

Meanwhile, motor tanker *Aurora* (new name *Sea Bird*) has been discharging 43,910 metric tonnes of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) at New Mangalore Port (NMP) since April 2.

Another LPG tanker, *MT Al Ain*, sailing from Saudi Arabia's Yanbu Port, too, has berthed at NMP on Saturday and began discharging 23,000 metric tonnes of LPG for three public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs).

MT Jag Vasant, presently at Mumbai anchorage, is expected to arrive at NMP on April 8 to discharge 9,500 metric tonnes of LPG.

Historically, India was a major buyer of Iranian crude, importing significant volumes of Iranian light and heavy grades due to strong refinery compatibility and favourable commercial terms.
(With contribution from Anil Kumar Sastry)

Trump gives Iran 48 hours to make deal

The war erupted more than a month ago with U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran, triggering a retaliation that has spread the conflict throughout West Asia and convulsed the global economy -- particularly due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a vital conduit for oil and gas.

"Remember when I gave Iran ten days to MAKE A DEAL or OPEN UP THE HORMUZ STRAIT," Mr. Trump wrote on Truth Social, referring to an ultimatum issued on March 26. "Time is running out -- 48 hours before all Hell will reign down on them."

Tehran said on Friday it had shot down an F-15 warplane and U.S. media reported United States special forces had rescued one of its two crew members, with the other still missing. Iran's military also said it downed a US A-10 ground attack aircraft in the Gulf, with U.S. media saying the pilot of that plane was rescued.

The local Mehr news agency on Saturday quoted the deputy governor of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province, Fattah Mohammadi, as saying the search for the missing pilot involved "presence of popular forces and tribesmen alongside military forces and is still ongoing". He added that "last night, people fired at enemy helicopters with rifles and did not allow them to land".

Images posted on social media and verified by AFPTV showed Iranian police firing at a U.S. helicopter in southwestern Iran as U.S. forces searched for the airman.

Mohammad Ghalibaf, the Speaker of Iran's parliament, mocked the Trump administration, saying the "war they started has now been downgraded from 'regime change' to 'Hey! Can anyone find our pilots?'"

A strike near Iran's Bushehr nuclear plant on Saturday killed a guard and led Russia to announce it was evacuating 198 workers.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned that continued attacks on the plant on the southern coast could eventually lead to radioactive fallout that would "end life in GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) capitals, not Tehran".

Bushehr is considerably closer to Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar than it is to the Iranian capital.

345 fishermen arrive by flight in Chennai from Iran

Press Trust of India
CHENNAI

A total of 345 Tamil Nadu fishermen who were stranded in war-torn Iran arrived at the Chennai International Airport on Saturday following a coordinated repatriation effort.

The group, comprising an initial 327 fishermen and a subsequent batch of 18, had been stuck in the West Asian nation due to the prevailing conflict in the region.

According to sources, more than 1,000 fishermen from Tamil Nadu, mainly from Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts, had been working in Iran on contract, particularly in and around Kish Island port. They were out of work since the war began on February 28.

BJP sources said that the repatriation was facilitated by the Union government and the party.

State BJP chief Nainar Nagenthran said nearly 20 fishermen from Kerala, Puducherry, Gujarat and Odisha were also rescued.

Mamata dares Shah to speak to people deleted from rolls

Bengal Chief Minister says culprits behind the violence in Malda have escaped and officers were harassing people in the name of investigation; alleges BJP has stripped citizens of voting rights

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday challenged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to hold a meeting with people whose names have been deleted from the electoral rolls in Malda district.

"I challenge Amit Shah to hold a meeting here in Malda and speak to the people whose names have been deleted. The BJP must fall at people's feet and beg for their forgiveness for bringing them this misery. I ask people to respond through EVMs," the Trinamool Congress chairperson said, addressing a public gathering in Malda.

Mr. Shah had recently accompanied BJP candidates, during nomination filing from Bhabanipur and said that he would spend 15 days in the State.

Malda has been on the boil following the gherao of judicial officers engaged in the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise by a mob. The officials were rescued on Wednesday night by a large police contingent. On Thursday, the Supreme Court came down heavily on the protesters, calling it a "brazen attempt" to browbeat officers and a challenge to the authority of the top court.

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee campaigning for Trinamool candidates during a rally in Malda district on Saturday. PTI

About 60 lakh names have been sent for adjudication, with a deletion rate of about 40%. More than 63 lakh names have already been deleted from the electoral rolls of the State.

The prime accused in the gherao, Moffakkerul Islam, a lawyer who had contested the 2021 election on AIMIM ticket, was arrested by the West Bengal Police. Thirty-four others were arrested before the case was handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Speaking at the meeting, the Chief Minister said, "The culprits behind the violence in Malda's Mothabari have escaped while investigators are harassing the innocent locals in the name of a probe."

Claiming that the BJP had taken away people's voting rights, Ms. Banerjee said, "Tomorrow, they will take away your land and language. Meat, fish and eggs are not allowed to be eaten in BJP-ruled States."

"I know many people who voted for the BJP previously will not vote for them this time. They understand that Bengal is being humiliated. Several members of their families, too, have lost voting rights...," she said.

The Chief Minister said some members of her family had also been deleted from the voting list and asked, "Are we all infiltrators?"

Urging voters in Malda to support her party, the Chief Minister said people of the constituency voted for the Congress and the BJP in the past. "You voted for the Congress and the BJP in the Lok Sabha. If you vote for them in the upcoming polls, then who will fight for your voting rights?" she asked.

Centre cannot treat States as 'subordinates', says SC judge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court judge Justice B.V. Nagarathna on Saturday said the Centre can neither treat States as "subordinates" nor discriminate against the citizens of a State ruled by an opposing political party.

Justice Nagarathna, in line of seniority to be the first woman Chief Justice of India in 2027, said the Centre ought to view the States as coordinates and federalism as a constitutional arrangement of co-equals.

"Interparty differences or distinct political ideologies have to be kept aside in the matter of Centre-State relations... The citizens must have the benefit of both governments with regard to the welfare schemes... The citizens of a State cannot be discriminated against in matters of development or in governance...," the judge said in her lecture at the Chanakya National Law University on 'Constitutionalism beyond Rights: Why Structure Matters'.

Cong. to contest Baramati bypoll; Shiv Sena (UBT) chief likely to back Sunetra Pawar

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

NCP leader calls Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray to seek his support for the election

The rift within the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), Maharashtra's Opposition alliance, was exposed again on Saturday, as the Congress broke with its partners in declaring that it would contest the upcoming bypoll for the Baramati Assembly seat.

The seat fell vacant after the death of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar in a plane crash in January. His widow and successor Sunetra Pawar is the ruling alliance's candidate for the seat.

On Friday evening, Ms. Pawar called Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray to seek his support for the election and sources from the Opposition party told *The Hindu* it was likely to support her candidature.

The third major MVA partner, the NCP faction headed by Sharad Pawar, has already said it will not field a candidate to oppose Ms. Pawar.

"Sunetra *vahini* called Uddhav *saaheb* at around 5 p.m. on Friday. The Baramati bypoll is an emotional issue. Uddhav *saaheb* has said in the past as well that Ajit Pawar was his close associate. They had worked in the government together," a senior Shiv Sena (UBT) leader told *The Hindu*, indicating that Mr. Thackeray is leaning towards supporting Ms. Pawar.

State's political culture
Shiv Sena (UBT) sources pointed out that this is in line with the State's political culture. "Sunetra *vahini* had called not as the Deputy Chief Minister, but as a widow who had lost her husband, and who sought support for contesting the polls. It is Maharashtra's political tradition that when there is a death in the family, the elections to that seat are held unopposed," a party leader said.

Congress unfazed
The Congress, however, was unfazed by such arguments. Maharashtra Congress president Harshwardhan Sapkal told *The Hindu* that Ms. Pawar, Mr. Thackeray, and Mr. Pawar had not approached the party seeking its support. "The *dharma* in an alliance is to hold talks with each other. But here, we are excluded. We are not a part of any talks," The Congress leader said.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis also appealed to all parties to extend their support to make the bypolls unopposed.

Government's claim of no displacement of tribals a lie: Congress on Nicobar project

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday targeted the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Union government over a new draft plan to "relocate" Nicobarese families affected by the Centre's ₹92,000-crore Great Nicobar Island mega-infrastructure project, with Jairam Ramesh, MP, saying that the Centre's past claims of the project not disturbing or displacing local tribal communities were "clearly a lie".

Concerns ignored
In a social media post, citing *The Hindu*'s report on the above-mentioned plan, which has caused confusion and anxiety among locals, the party's general secretary in-charge of communications, Mr. Ramesh, on Saturday, said, "The bulldozer moves on unmindful of the concerns of the local communities.

Jairam Ramesh

But there is a fundamental contradiction here: the [Narendra] Modi Govt. claims that the Great Nicobar infra project will not disturb or displace tribes– then why a relocation plan? Clearly the claim is a lie."

The Hindu reported on Saturday that the district administration had prepared a draft relocation plan for local communities affected by the project on Great Nicobar Island, and was pushing to finalise this draft with the Centre's lawyers having told the Calcutta High Court that it would "demonstrate" consent of the tribal community in 15 days' time.

The project, which was granted Stage-I clearance in 2022, will include a transhipment port, an airport, a power plant, and a township.

Violation of rights
However, the project's clearances have been challenged before a Bench of the Calcutta High Court, over alleged violations of consent procedures and local tribes' forest rights.

The draft plan's details on where the relocation will take place and who will be relocated has created confusion among the community members in Great Nicobar, who have been demanding to return to their ancestral forest lands on the west coast, from where they had been displaced by the 2004 tsunami.

Row over language policy pits plurality concerns against intent

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a heated exchange on Saturday on the CBSE's three-language formula, the Union government emphasised the promotion of Indian languages and policy intent, while Tamil Nadu's leadership raised questions about linguistic equity, administrative readiness, and the broader impact on non-Hindi-speaking States.

Dismissing concerns raised by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday said the arguments "ignored ground reality". He claimed that the Union government "actively encourages students across India to embrace Indian languages," even while the Tamil Nadu government "continues to deprive Tamil students of diverse opportunities for the sake of a divisive vote bank."

The CBSE has announced that it will gradually implement the three-language formula.

The arguments continued on X, with DMK leaders including Kanimozhi and P. Wilson supporting Mr. Stalin's arguments on the social media platform, while T.N. BJP leader K. Annamalai backed Mr. Pradhan's argument by asking how the policy imposes Hindi on students.

Mr. Stalin asked if students in Hindi-speaking States would be mandated to learn Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, or even languages like Bengali or Marathi. Calling the policy "ill-conceived," he asked whether the Union government was awake to the ground realities of "teacher availability, training capacity, and infrastructure."

He added: "This is not merely a question of language – it is a question of fairness, federalism, and equal opportunity. By structurally privileging Hindi-speaking students, this policy risks creating entrenched advantages in higher education and employment, further widening regional disparities... India's strength lies in diversity – not in enforced uniformity."

Mr. Pradhan responded, saying, "The talk of resources is merely a facade. It is the DMK government that has stalled the establishment of PM SHRI schools in Tamil Nadu by refusing to sign the MoU after giving an undertaking for the same." He also accused the DMK government of "obstructing" the implementation of Navodaya Vidyalayas in the State, saying this was "prioritising political narratives over educational quality". He asserted that it was because of the DMK's "dishonest politics" that modern infrastructure and teachers had been "effectively withheld", reiterating his government's "commitment" to funding and teacher training.

Mr. Stalin said that Mr. Pradhan's remarks were "deeply irresponsible and reckless, and reflect an entrenched disregard for India's plurality, federal values, and respect for States."

BJP govt. is shielding accused in Ajmer gang rape case: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

AICC SC department chair said the police did not make an arrest for nearly eight months

The Congress on Saturday accused the BJP government in Rajasthan of shielding the accused in the gang rape of a 15-year-old Dalit girl in Ajmer and the subsequent attack on her family, claiming the police failed to act despite the survivor's statement and repeated complaints.

Addressing a press conference, AICC Scheduled Castes (SC) Department chairperson Rajendra Pal Gautam said atrocities against Dalits were rising in BJP-ruled States.

Mr. Gautam said the Ajmer incident occurred in July 2024 but surfaced months later after the minor became pregnant. Despite the survivor recording her statement before a magistrate, the police did not make any arrest for nearly eight months, he said.

Only one of the three accused has been arrested so far, Mr. Gautam alleged, adding that two others were briefly detained under preventive provisions but were later released.

He also said that on March 16, ahead of a scheduled court appearance, the survivor's family was attacked with axes.

Demanding immediate security and compensation for the survivor and her family, Mr. Gautam said action should also be taken against police officials who allegedly flouted the law.

ASSEMBLY POLLS

Assam CM and Cong. continue war of words

Two days after Rahul Gandhi called him the "most corrupt" Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma retaliated by calling the Congress leader 'Pappu' and State Congress president Gaurav Gogoi as 'Chhota Pappu'. "Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, and Rahul Gandhi will have to be reborn to arrest me. They can touch a hair on my body only after seven lives," Mr. Sarma said on Friday.

Congress leader Pawan Khera retaliated on Saturday. "Since @himantabiswa believes he is above the law, he should remember a natural law: the higher you stand, the harder you fall. From CM's residence to Tihar — that will only be the beginning," Mr. Khera posted on X. Earlier, Mr. Gandhi said, Mr. Sarma's "chest-puffing" would end the moment the Congress formed the government in Assam.

Himanta Biswa during a rally held in Sivasagar in Assam on Saturday.

NGT stays order on poll duty for forest force

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has stayed an Assam government order directing the deployment of around 1,600 personnel of the Assam Forest Protection Force (AFPF) for election duties, observing that the move raises serious environmental concerns.

Invoking the precautionary principle, the tribunal directed the State government to "desist from violating the provisions" of environmental laws, and ordered that "operation of the impugned order… is stayed till further orders". In its April 2 order, the eastern zone Bench noted that the plea "raise[s] substantial questions relating to the environment", particularly in the context of laws governing biodiversity conservation. The tribunal issued notices to the respondents and fixed April 6 for the next hearing.

"Kerala is called 'God's own country'. But God is not safe in Kerala. Even Lord Ayyappa's gold was taken away. We don't want UDF and LDF any more

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN
BJP leader

4 suspended over lapses at BJP roadshow

The Election Commission of India (EC) on Saturday issued a suspension order to four police officers for failing to maintain law and order during BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari's roadshow in Bhabanipur, on April 2. This follows a letter from West Bengal's Chief Electoral Officer, calling for action against the officers.

"The Illatharasi initiative [appliance coupons for women] is an economic multiplier. The scheme is about choice-based governance

GEETHA JEEVAN
DMK leader

BJP president Nitin Nabin and party candidate Pijush Hazarika during a rally in Jagiroad on March 30. PTI

Days before polls, BJP shifts focus to youth, floods in Assam

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Less than a week before Assam goes to the polls on April 9, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has shifted its focus from infiltrators and identity politics to youth empowerment and flood mitigation.

Information Minister Pijush Hazarika, who is seeking to retain the Jagiroad Assembly seat, said on Saturday that Assam has embarked upon a transformative period marked by development, trust, and prosperity for its youth. He credited the government's pro-youth initiatives to the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

In a declaration of commitment to employment generation, Mr. Hazarika said that the government surpassed its 2021 electoral promise of one lakh government jobs by delivering 1.65 lakh appointments. "We have a resolute target of exceeding two lakh jobs in the next five years," he added.

Initiatives for youth

He underlined the Chief Minister Flight initiative to equip the youth with global-standard skills, with financial assistance of ₹1 lakh to each beneficiary, and the establishment of the northeast's first Maritime Skill Development Centre in Guwahati as examples of the government's commitment.

"Through the Chief Minister's Atmanirbhar Asom Abhiyan, over one lakh youth have received financial assistance exceeding ₹1,000 crore, with an ambitious roadmap to support 10 lakh youth with assistance up to ₹5 lakh each in the coming five years," Mr. Hazarika said. He also noted that 12.75 lakh MSME units generated employment for more than 82 lakh youth since 2021. He said 615 start-ups were supported during this period.

"We institutionalised free coaching for competitive examinations, including UPSC [Union Public Service Commission], APSC [Assam Public Service Commission], and SSC [Staff Selection Commission], along with specialised coaching for JEE [Joint Entrance Examination], NEET [National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test], CLAT [Common Law Admission Test], and CUET [Common University Entrance Test]," he said, also highlighting the emphasis on industrial growth.

Zubeen Garg factor

The perceived disillusionment of Gen Z and Gen Alpha, seeking justice for the late singer Zubeen Garg, is seen as a factor behind the change in the BJP's poll narrative. Similarly, the party outlined its flood mitigation initiatives, with pre-monsoon showers threatening floods and waterlogging.

"The BJP government is not merely containing floods, but is resolutely advancing towards a permanent solution to Assam's flood crisis. We have elevated flood management as a core mission of governance, with an investment exceeding ₹18,000 crore earmarked for the Flood-Free Assam Mission over the next five years, underpinned by a comprehensive, long-term strategic framework," Mr. Hazarika said.

Under river rejuvenation initiatives, modern embankments are being constructed using advanced technology, with measures for erosion control and land restoration undertaken.

A dedicated flood monitoring force will be deployed, engaging trained volunteers for real-time surveillance," he said.

Cong.-BJP nexus claim absurd, says Chennithala

Congress leader criticises the State govt. over Sabarimala temple entry policy and exodus of youth; affirms commitment to addressing needs of the elderly, increasing welfare pension in State

IN FOCUS

S. Anandan
HARIPAD

Senior Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala has described the allegations of a nexus between the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the ongoing election as absurd.

"It's absurd because Narendra Modi wants a Congress-*mukt* Bharat and Pinarayi Vijayan wants the continuance of his government. Both have a common aim," Mr. Chennithala, permanent invitee to the Congress Working Committee (CWC) and the United Democratic Front (UDF) candidate from Haripad, said in an interview with *The Hindu*.

Mr. Chennithala also alleged that the Communist Party of India [CPI(M)] and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had colluded in 2021 as well, which resulted in the re-election of the Left Front government. He claimed that allegations against the Congress were being made to cover up this collusion. He added that the Congress's archrival is the BJP nationally, while in Kerala its main rival is the CPI(M).

Ramesh Chennithala with residents of Akalad, Punnayur, during the Gandhi Gramam programme in Kerala. K.K. NAJEEB

The Congress held widespread consultations before promising to launch a ministry for the elderly, he said. "We are talking about the silver economy, as the challenge of the State's rapidly ageing population can be converted into opportunities. Apart from this, the five guarantees offered by the party in other States will also be implemented in Kerala," Mr. Chennithala added.

On welfare pension

He dismissed criticism of the Oommen Chandy government in 2011 regarding overdue welfare pensions, and said the UDF had a plan to raise the welfare pension to ₹3,000 if voted to power.

Sabarimala remains a major poll issue for the UDF. "The pilgrims are hurt because of the gold theft, and the gold has not been recovered yet. The accused have received bail and the government is protecting them. The CPI(M) has not taken action against the party leaders accused in the case. Moreover, the State government has not changed its stance on the issue of women of all age groups entering the Sabarimala temple. We will expose them before the people," Mr. Chennithala said.

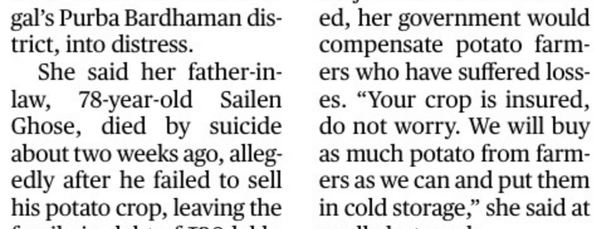
He said the State's health and education sectors, which were the cornerstones of the famed Kerala Model, had degenerated during the last 10 years of LDF rule. He added that the government had done nothing to prevent the exodus of the youth from the State.

Mr. Chennithala said any decision on who would lead the Cabinet if the UDF came to power would be taken by the Congress high command.

When asked about the Congress's unfulfilled promise of constructing houses for the victims of the Wayanad landslides, he said the State government had promised land for the same, but it was not provided. "We have now purchased land and the foundation was laid by Rahul Gandhi. We are in the process of constructing the houses; it will be done on time," he said.

Mr. Chennithala had alleged a scam in the government's plan to award the contract for the purchase of a 'uniform software' for primary agriculture cooperative credit society branches from the Kerala Dinesh Beedi Workers' Central Cooperative Society Ltd.

He said the Kerala High Court had halted it till May.



The daughter-in-law (left) and wife of deceased potato farmer Sailen Ghose outside their house in Kalna. SHRABANA CHATTERJEE

Price crash and storage crunch: a hot potato in election time

Shrabana Chatterjee
KALNA (PURBA BARDHAMAN)

Three years of mounting losses in potato farming have pushed the family of Minakshi Ghose, a farmer from Kalna in West Bengal's Purba Bardhaman district, into distress.

She said her father-in-law, 78-year-old Sailen Ghose, died by suicide about two weeks ago, allegedly after he failed to sell his potato crop, leaving the family in debt of ₹20 lakh. "We have had to sell potato sacks (50 kg each) for ₹110 when the production cost is at least ₹350. I cultivated over 16 bighas of potatoes. No one has stood by us," she said. Potatoes lie scattered in the courtyard of their house, with no buyers in sight.

"I have already lost everything. What is the point of speaking about it? You cannot bring back my father," said Mr. Ghose's son.

Death of three farmers between February and March has been linked to falling potato prices, turning the incidents into a major issue ahead of the Assembly election.

High yield, price fall

This year, the districts of Purba Bardhaman, Hooghly, and Paschim Medinipur in the southern part of the State saw a bumper potato crop. The high yield led to wholesale prices crashing rapidly, leaving many farmers across the region in distress.

Farmers across the region are incurring losses due to falling prices. Rafikul Islam, a potato farmer and Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation worker from Kalna, said he has suffered a ₹40,000 loss. Small farmers cannot afford cold storage. In distress, they are forced to sell at one-third of their production cost.

Many of Mr. Islam's fellow farmers have incurred losses running into several lakhs, though the bumper production had given them hope for a better year ahead.

Across Kalna, fields are strewn with potatoes as farmers abandon their produce, with no scope to sell or store. Potato sacks could be seen stacked across the villages as farmers struggle to arrange money to keep them in cold storage.

To provide some relief to distressed farmers, the State government issued a notification on March 13, reserving 30% of the State's cold storage space for small potato farmers.

During her election rallies in Paschim Medinipur, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said that if re-elected, her government would compensate potato farmers who have suffered losses. "Your crop is insured, do not worry. We will buy as much potato from farmers as we can and put them in cold storage," she said at a rally last week.

However, Kalna Trinamool Congress MLA Deboprasad Bag, also the party's candidate for the upcoming election, denied that Sailen Ghose died by suicide out of distress.

Biggest cash crop

Farmers in West Bengal typically have small landholdings, and potato is one of the State's biggest cash crops. According to reports by the State Departments of Horticulture and Agriculture, West Bengal is the second-highest potato producer in the country after Uttar Pradesh.

"Last year, production was about 110 lakh tonnes. This year, it is expected to cross 130 lakh tonnes," Dilip Pratihar, secretary, Pragatishil Alu Byabsayee Samiti, said.

As potato cultivation surged in south Bengal, farmers across Hooghly, Purba Bardhaman and Paschim Medinipur have been severely affected.

Rakhal Ari, 28, from Chandrakona in Paschim Medinipur, allegedly died by suicide on March 11 after incurring losses of over ₹1 lakh. Mr. Ari's death drew attention from Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "Just three days back, one of our farmers died by suicide in Chandrakona. They (Trinamool) are playing with the lives of farmers," Mr. Modi said at a public rally in Kolkata's Brigade Ground on March 14.

The Opposition has alleged multiple farmer deaths out of distress in the State this year, a claim denied by the ruling party.

With weeks left for the polls, BJP State president Samik Bhattacharya claimed that at least five farmers have died by suicide in the State between February and March, including three potato farmers.

(For those in distress, counselling is available at Tele MANAS 14416.)

Jagiroad's poll story: when the chips were down, fresh hope from a plant

Rahul Karmakar
JAGIROAD (ASSAM)

Jursing Bordoloi undertook a mission in March 2024 to dissuade people in and around Jagiroad, a town 55 km east of Guwahati, from selling off their lands and houses. It was a few days after the Centre approved a ₹27,000-crore semiconductor plant to be set up by the Tata Group.

Jagiroad, in Morigaon district, was developed as an industrial centre in the 1960s with a spun-silk mill, followed by a cooperative jute mill, a polyester spinning mill, and a cooperative sugar mill. These were not as huge as the paper mill - Hindustan Paper Corporation - established in 1985.

These mills, however, folded up one by one, depriving the town of a large captive market of employees and their families. The local economy suffered the most after the paper mill shut down in 2017.

"Depression set in, and people began selling off their lands, houses, and shops. It was tough motivating them to hold on, particularly after the COVID-19 pandemic dealt a blow to the already dying town," Mr. Bordoloi, an adviser to the titular Tiwa king, told *The Hindu*. The Tiwas are the dominant tribe in Morigaon district.

The BJP has showcased the semiconductor plant as a game-changer for Jagiroad and Assam's economy. RAHUL KARMAKAR

The semiconductor project staff have provided a steady rental income, says Bordoloi

He said the townspeople saw a ray of hope when the State government, in January 2023, announced that it had begun the process of developing 1,000 acres of land in Jagiroad, including 500 acres of the dead paper mill, into a world-class integrated business city with help from Singapore.

"Still, we advised people to hold on and not give up. Scepticism greeted the semiconductor project, but people believed things were changing for the better when work started on the chip-making plant," Mr. Bordoloi said, adding that since the end of 2024, workers and engineers on the project have been providing a steady rental income for house owners.

"Things are looking up, but I am not sure if we will get tenants after the project is completed and employees of the semiconductor plant move into a township," Lakhan Bordoloi, who owns a house behind a landmark eatery, said.

Litton Saha, a grocery store owner, said business has picked up, but not to encouraging levels. "The scenario may be better after the plant starts functioning by the end of this year, as we hear, but we don't think it will generate enough direct or indirect jobs as the labour-intensive paper mill did. In that case, our customer base may not increase much," he said.

Job opportunities

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has showcased the semiconductor plant as its future-ready development model, insists it will be a game-changer for Jagiroad and Assam's economy. "This project is poised to generate employment for more than 26,000 youth, with plans under way to launch the Assam Electronics Mission," Information Minister Pijush Hazarika, seeking to retain the Jagiroad Assembly constituency for the third straight term, said.

His only rival, Bubul Das of Congress, is also upbeat about the plant. Still, some of his party colleagues doubt if the specialised, technology-driven project would offer enough jobs for locals.

Tata Group officials said local people would constitute a sizeable chunk of the workforce. They said recruitment of trainees for the plant began before it was initiated, and 268 of some 600 students selected in 2024 were from Morigaon. "The chosen ones are undergoing training in Bengaluru," Bhaben Neog, the principal of Jagiroad College, said.

INBRIEF

Rain continues in parts of Maharashtra; crops damaged

Rain continues to lash parts of Maharashtra, with no respite in sight. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said the rainfall intensity will persist. The impact is felt in central Maharashtra, Marathwada, and dry Vidarbha, where rainfall with gusty winds is forecast. A 'yellow alert' has been issued for 15 districts: Ahilyanagar, Jalgaon, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Amravati, Akola, Jalna, Parbhani, Beed, Dharashiv, Latur, Hingoli, Nanded, Yavatmal, Washim, and Chandrapur. These regions may receive rainfall with lightning in the next 24 hours. Officials said agricultural crops have suffered from the rain. Farmers have reported loss of ready-to-harvest Rabi crops.

MoD backs indigenous 1,000-kg aerial bomb for IAF

The Ministry of Defence has "issued an Expression of Interest (EoI) for design, development and procurement of 1,000-kg aerial bombs (akin to Mk-84) along with tail units and associated equipment under the provisions of the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020", according to senior officials. The project aims at boosting India's '*Aatmanirbharta*' in the sector. The system is intended to be "compatible with both Russian and Western-origin aircraft" currently operated by the Indian Air Force (IAF) and a total of "600 aerial bombs are planned to be procured" under the 'Buy (Indian-IDDM)' category, as per the official. PTI

Tripura villagers protest after elephant kills elderly woman

Residents of a remote village in Tripura staged a protest and blocked a roadway after an elderly woman was killed by an elephant before dawn on Saturday. The police administration which has been extremely busy owing to forthcoming elections to the tribal autonomous district council had a tough time quelling the situation. Police said the elderly tribal woman was trampled to death by a tusker at Ramkrishnapur village in Khowai district. The elephant broke into the bamboo-made house to attack the family. Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha,, visited the bereaved family and met with villagers. He assured the family of support.

Chandigarh grenade blast case solved, says Punjab DGP

The Punjab Police on Saturday said the State's intelligence wing, in a joint operation with the Chandigarh police, has successfully solved the grenade attack case outside the Bharatiya Janata Party office in Chandigarh, with the arrest of five accused involved in the incident. The police said they have recovered one hand grenade and one 30 bore Zigana pistol along with ammunition from their possession. Punjab's Director-General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said that preliminary investigations have revealed that the module was backed by Pakistan's ISI and operated under the directions of foreign-based handlers located in Portugal and Germany.

Nine killed as car plunges into well in Nashik's Dindori

Victims were returning from a social gathering organised by a private coaching class; police have started probe to determine cause of the accident; people have requested for fencing along road

Chinmay Gaikwad
NASHIK

The NDRF and local people carried out the rescue operation late into the night. PTI

All the passengers were retrieved dead; among the deceased were three children and two women

Nine people were killed when the car in which they were travelling veered off a road and fell into a water-filled well in the Shivajinagar area of Dindori town in Nashik district of Maharashtra late on Friday. Among the deceased were three children and two women.

The driver of the car lost control of the vehicle while returning from a social gathering organised by a private coaching class. It veered off the road and plunged into the well and sank.

The deceased, all residents of Indore village in Dindori taluka, are Sunil Dattatray Dargode (32), Reshma Sunil Dargode (27), Asha Anil Dargode (32), Gunavati Sunil Dargode (11), Shreyash Anil Dargode (11), Shravani Anil Dargode (11), Srushti Anil Dargode (14), Samruddhi Rajendra Dargode (7), and Shraddha Anil Dargode (13).

Local people rushed to the spot after receiving information about the accident. The car was lifted out of the well using a crane during an operation that continued into the night. By then, all passengers had died. A crane was brought in to lift the car from the well during an operation that continued late into the night. By a quarter past midnight, the vehicle was retrieved, and all the occupants were found dead.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and local administrative officials arrived at the scene after being alerted.

With help from residents, they retrieved the bodies. The police have started an investigation to determine the cause of the accident.

Deputy Chief Minister Sunetra Ajit Pawar expressed grief over the incident, and said the accident caused distress. She offered tributes to the deceased and stated her wish for strength to the families.

Vikram Raje, an advocate, said the well had existed since 1972 and had served as a water source for the village.

He said a protective mesh and metal angles had been installed over the well earlier, but someone had removed them. The people had requested the Nagar Panchayat to install protective fencing along the road.

Semiconductor industry will shape the future: experts

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The growing interest in semiconductor design and packaging services in India, driven by talent and innovation, is aligned with the country's push for expanding the semiconductor industry, speakers at a webinar said on Friday.

The webinar, titled "Electronics and semiconductor careers: skills, roles, and how to get started", was jointly presented by VIT, Vellore, and *The Hindu Education Plus* under the Career Path Series.

The speakers focused on how the semiconductor industry would shape the future of all industries highlighting the high-growth opportunities in the sector driven by AI boom and an ever-increasing demand for electronics.

Abhishek Chaudhary, DFT Engineer at Advanced Micro Devices Inc., said that with the focus shifting from software to hardware, students were at the exact intersection of time and opportunity. Electronics, he said, was a broad and diverse highway offering career paths.

Kanchana Bhaaskaran, Vice-Chancellor, VIT, Vellore, underscored the government's support to academic institutions and start-ups through massive investment schemes. The India Semiconductor Mission 2021 was launched to create chip manufacturing plants, packaging and testing units, and support start-ups in chip design as well as train young engineers, she said.

Sivanantham Sathasivam, Director, V-Space, VIT Vellore, said semiconductor fabrication was driven by demand for electronic goods, automotive industry, aeronautics, and other sectors, encouraging students to pursue their interests in physics, chemistry, quantum physics.

Abhirami R., Staff Engineer, Samsung Semiconductor India Research, Bengaluru, focused on the importance of internships and hackathons. The webinar can be viewed at newsth.live/THVITESY.

ISRO to test astronaut capability in a high altitude environment

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Astronauts will be kept in challenging conditions. PTI

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced the launch of a mission in Ladakh to examine the physiological, psychological and operational dynamics of astronauts and ground teams functioning in a high-altitude environment.

Known as Mission MITRA (Mapping of Interoperable Traits and Response Assessment), the study will be conducted until April 9 at an altitude of approximately 3,500 metres in Leh, simulating the environmental conditions of hypoxia, low temperature and isolation as a natural analog for spaceflight operations.

"This study is targeted to generate vital understanding on the team interoperability between crew and ground control teams and effectiveness of decision making under environmental and operational stress," the ISRO said in a statement on April 3. "Analog missions conducted under controlled yet realistic conditions are utilised to understand how crew performs under challenging conditions."

Trans activists move top court, cite threat to right to self-identification

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Activists have moved the Supreme Court against the Centre's new Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act, 2026.

Laxminarayan Tripathi, who became the first transgender person from the Asia-Pacific region to address the United Nations General Assembly, has challenged the constitutional validity of the 2026 Act, for disregarding transgender identity as an "authentic human identity, freely chosen".

The other petitioner, Zainab Javid Patel, a recognised figure in transgender rights advocacy, agrees that the 2026 Act veers away from the Supreme Court's own 2014 NALSA judgment that identity is determined by the person, not by biology, birth assignment or through state verification.

Constitutional question

The petitioners, represented by advocates Nipun Katyal, Surya Pratap Singh Rana, Aishwary Mishra and Manan Sharma, said the 2026 Act throws up a singularly fundamental constitutional question of law, that is, whether the state, through the instrument of legislation, may define who a person is and, in so doing, "substitute its own biological or socio-medical classification for the lived, autonomous and self-perceived identity of a human being".

Points of concern

The NALSA judgment, which upheld transgender persons' right to self-determined gender identity and protected them from discrimination and social stigma, had led to the enactment of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019. The 2019 Act had largely captured the essence of gender non-conformity and embodied the self-identification principle.

However, the petitioners said, the new amendment law has taken to pieces the reforms made over the years.

The petitioners argue that this recognition, which was the most explicit statutory recognition of the NALSA principle, "is now gone. Parliament has, by the stroke of a legislative pen, repealed the statutory right that this court held to be a fundamental right under Article 21".

The petition said the requirement under the 2026 Act for medical certification as a condition for legal gender recognition violated the rights of transgender persons and amounted to "medical gatekeeping". The amended law required a government-appointed medical board's favourable recommendation for a District Magistrate to give an identity certificate to a transgender person.

The petition said, the new law required hospitals and surgical centres performing gender-affirming surgery to report the patients' details to the government.

SUDOKU

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	5		6				7	
3	2			7	1			9
6							4	1
4		1				2		3
2	7							8
7			1	8			3	6
	3				6		1	
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	9	4	5	3	1	2	6	7
6	1	3	9	2	7	5	8	4
7	2	5	8	6	4	1	9	3
1	4	8	3	7	9	6	5	2
9	3	7	2	5	6	8	4	1
2	5	6	1	4	8	3	7	9
5	7	2	4	8	3	9	1	6
4	8	1	6	9	2	7	3	5
3	6	9	7	1	5	4	2	8

Follower-turned-whistleblower helps police arrest godman

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
NASHIK

Self-styled godman Ashok Kharat (second from left) is in police custody on charges of rape and black magic. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A devotee-turned-whistleblower says he has blown the lid on the sexual offences of godman Ashok Kharat and saved the lives of scores of women who were allegedly hoodwinked by the 67-year-old self-styled guru.

Mr. Kharat is currently lodged in police custody in a rape and black magic case. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been probing allegations against him in the high-profile case that has caused ripples in Maharashtra politics.

The SIT has been collecting evidence and recording witness statements.

Outside the ambit of the police probe too, allegations have been levelled by political leaders and social activists against Mr. Kharat for his alleged contacts with top politicians and bureaucrats in the State.

Speaking exclusively to *The Hindu*, Jaywant Miske (name changed) says he was an ardent follower of the self-styled godman till a few years ago. He would diligently serve him, take care of his daily chores, and bow before him, he says.

This subservient relationship went on till Mr. Kharat, he claims, allegedly sexually assaulted his then pregnant wife a few years ago. Mr. Miske took the call to keep tabs on the fake godman. Mr. Miske said he installed a CCTV camera in Mr. Kharat's office and recorded several videos of the conman's transgressions. Mr. Miske says he had worked in one of Mr. Kharat's offices for a few years, till he left the job after he got the recordings.

The follower recently turned a whistleblower as he gave the Nashik police a blow-by-blow account of the arrested conman's deeds. The CCTV recordings are key evidence in the police investigation.

Mr. Miske says he has done a "pious job" by turning a whistleblower in the matter. " I have saved thousands of Hindu women and girls. Had I not blown the lid off this exploitation ring, he would have still been worshipped as God by all the followers. He would have destroyed many more families, many women," he says, while claiming that Mr. Kharat had been involved in this racket since 1998.

Describing the ordeal his wife faced during her pregnancy, Mr. Miske says: "The *baba* [as he referred to Mr. Kharat] told me that an auspicious puja needs to be done in the seventh month of pregnancy. He asked me to call my wife to office. When she came, both of us went inside his cabin. In some time, he sent me out. After a while, my wife came out looking pale. She did not say a word and went home. That night, she told me that the *baba* was a terrible person and that he had done wrong things to her."

Thereafter, Mr. Miske started seeing Mr. Kharat in a different light, speaking to his client base, trying to understand in detail about his property dealings and financial holdings. He claims to have secretly installed the CCTV camera in Mr. Kharat's cabin that recorded over 100 instances of sexual transgressions within a month. Mr. Miske says there are 156 videos that have been recorded. The police have not put a number on the seized videos, but have said that there are more than 100.

Mr. Kharat had registered a complaint of extortion against Mr. Miske, while he has denied any involvement in it.

While registering the complaint, Mr. Miske says he was scared for his life. When he goes to the SIT, he worriedly asks the police officers if Mr. Kharat will come out of prison free. "Think of someone who has duped so many high-profile people. He was in direct touch with the Ministers, officers, and businessmen. What will it take for him to get someone like me killed? When the SIT asks me questions, I ask them if he will be able to walk out of that prison. I am scared for my life. But this [revelation] had to be done," he says, adding that he has been given police protection.

The police say that Mr. Miske's complaint and testimony form an important part of the case. "While Mr. Kharat is the villian, Jaywant Miske is the hero who put his life at stake to turn into a complainant".

INBRIEF

U.S. FDA issues 4 observations to U.S. facility of Granules arm

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA) has issued four Form 483 observations to Granules India subsidiary Granules Pharmaceuticals Inc. facility in Virginia, US. It was a routine current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) audit. The observations are related to procedural matters and no data integrity-related observations were reported during the inspection, conducted from March 30-April 3. It was the second U.S. FDA inspection at the Chantilly facility in the last one year, the parent company said in a filing with the exchanges on Saturday.

Exim data for FY26 likely by mid-April: Rajesh Agrawal

Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal on Saturday said a clear picture on how the West Asia crisis has impacted India's exports as well as imports will emerge once the trade data is available around mid-April. Both "merchandise exports and services exports have been growing well and we hope to end the year in a positive territory," the senior official said here on Saturday. By April 15 the data should be available, he said, adding oil imports by volume are likely to be less and more in value terms as the price of the commodity has gone up since the war began. India's exports to West Asia, which is an important market, is also bound to be less.

Venu Srinivasan resigns from Bai Hirabai Jamsetji trust

Veteran industrialist Venu Srinivasan, a trustee on Tata Trusts, has resigned from the Bai Hirabai Jamsetji Tata Navsari Charitable Institution, sources said. Though he cited other business commitments for his resignation from one of the smaller Tata Trusts, the development followed a challenge from Mehli Mistry, a former trustee of the Tata Trusts. Comments from Mr. Srinivasan and Tata Trusts could not be obtained immediately. Ms. Mistry challenged the appointments of Venu Srinivasan and Vijay Singh to the board of Bai Hirabai Jamsetji Tata Navsari Charitable Institution in a complaint to Maharashtra Charity Commissioner. PTI

Looking for ideal investment advice during times of war

Finfluencers, brokerages and MFs say current market correction can be an opportunity but experts caution a straight 'buy the dip' may just not work in one-time events such as a war

NEWS ANALYSIS

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Bear rampage: The current crop of investors have never been exposed to a war as serious as the one we are in today, says Bhat.

For the past one month, social media has been full of asset managers, finfluencers and experts trying to pitch in with investing advice when the Nifty 50 slid over 11% in March.

With mutual funds (MFs) and major stocks underperforming, the advice markets will look up post-war corrections and investors will gain has almost become a given. Some experts, however, say this time around 'buy the dip' may just not be the best investment advice.

"It does not look like a regular garden-variety correction. I think it is more of a one-time event. This is because we haven't seen this sort of hostility between nations since World War II and the current crop of investors have not been exposed to a war as serious as the one we are in now," said U.R. Bhat, a veteran investor and co-founder of Alphaniti Fintech.

Extreme caution

If Nifty breaks the 52-week low of 21,744 and trades below the number for one or two weeks, it is better new investors don't enter the market," Similarly, MF holders with long-term goals like retirement can stay put. "If SIP is for a specific target of say 2 years or 3 years then I don't think it is right when markets are too volatile and probably heading downwards," he said.

Some others are slightly more optimistic.

Sahil Kapoor, who heads product and market strategy at DSP Mutual fund, felt since stock prices were 23-25 times consolidated earnings before and now have slid to 19, it is a good time to start buying stocks cheap as they can accumulate more units. But, it is only for stocks whose valuation multiples were well below fair value (17-18 times earnings assuming a firm has 16% ROE and long-term average earning growth of 10-12%).

"Allocate assets to large banks, for example. Today, private banks and some IT stocks' price-to-book multiples are as close to what they were in the global financial crisis," he said.

On the advice one should not stop SIPs as they turn around in the long term, Mr. Kapoor said over 10 years, MFs provide the average returns of the market anyway. Both the experts sounded cautious on ideal investor decisions.

There is a lot of talk about Indian investors maturing and participation of domestic over foreign investors. Even a smart investment at this time is unlikely to yield results as foreign investors have been exiting the Indian stock market for a year now, not finding valuations attractive. The returns in dollars gets worse with a quickly depreciating rupee and still-high oil prices.

SIP investors leaving?

This too may be partly a narrative. Dhananjay Sinha, CEO and head, institutional research, Systematix Research, says whether Indian investors will "keep going" is a tricky question to answer.

"We found the number of SIP's stagnated over the last one-and-a-half years. Whereas the per SIP value increased by 20% during that period. It does look like smaller investors have vacated. The people who are a little bit affluent have the money, they have still been putting in the money." Mr. Sinha said, adding this is the broader sense one gets when looking at the data.

Further, he said people seem to be thinking that the war-led correction is temporary.

While not denying that the end of war may cool investors down, he said the existing issue of tepid corporate earnings and not-so-cheap valuations even before the war still remained unsolved. Further a post-correction rally in the past has been due to government stimulus, the room for which may have reduced now. "I would say that buying the dip and so expecting a sharp rebound after the current scenario, may not be a right thing to really expect," he added.

Investor awareness

Eccentric buying of expensive IPO stocks and entering gold rally at its peak may not signal investing maturity. Investors need to be made aware of the incentive structures AMCs have, Mr.Bhat said.

AMCs acquire new assets and charge a fee on the same. The bigger the fund, the more the fee. This means advising sale/pause on investments may not be in the interest of the asset managers. SEBI's investor survey showed investors were aware of the stock market but a large proportion of them were making decisions based what finfluencers said. It is difficult to differentiate an advertisement for a fund from a genuine "buy" call. To solve this, SEBI said it would come out with a investor awareness framework.

"If one generation of retail investors lose substantially in a fierce bear market, it is only the next generation that will venture to start investing, as the memory of the loss may make them averse to capital market investments, Mr. Bhat warned.

A reliable and concrete source of advice on where and how much money to invest, as well as, when to hold or exit has become more important in a highly volatile market where zero returns are starting to look more probable.

Positive note: Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal with Pharmexcil representatives in Hyderabad. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'War may not impact FY26 pharma export'

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Striking a cautiously optimistic note, a senior Commerce Ministry official and representatives of the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India said FY26 pharma exports were likely to stay in the positive zone notwithstanding war's impact on the March performance.

For the 11 months up to February, exports were almost $28.29 billion against $26.79 billion a year ago.

"We have already achieved 5.6% growth up to February. March is crucial," Pharmexcil director Raja Bhanu said, hoping for positive growth when numbers for the fiscal come out later this month.

Pharma exports for FY26 will be 'somewhere near to last year's achievement,' Council chairman Namit Joshi said. He recalled the record $30.47 billion exports in FY25 were in part aided by exporters invoicing $1.6 billion medication to the U.S in March ahead of the new, higher tariff regime there. It was much above the normal sourcing by the U.S. and would have a bearing on the 2025-26 numbers.

On his statement, after war broke out in February, that freight disruptions may result in a loss of $500 million in March exports, he said it was based on assumptions. A clear picture will emerge when FY26 numbers are announced.

"One thing is clear, we are likely to land up better than last year," said Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal. It, however, looks difficult to meet the $32 billion FY26 target while performance in rupee terms may still be better given depreciation of the currency.

Mr.Agrawal, who along with the Pharmexcil DG and chairman, spoke to media after addressing Chintan Shivir, said the crisis impacted the energy supply chain. Concomitantly there is some impact on pharma vis a vis some intermediates and solvents, he said, adding the Centre was engaged with the concerned to prioritise limited LPG supplies as well as buying from other sources.

'A priority sector'

"We will try to alleviate some of the pain in every sector. Pharmaceuticals will be one of the priority sectors," he asserted.

He stressed on reducing supply chain dependency and sharpening focus on diversifying export markets. The Centre was cognisant of the challenges the industry is facing on sourcing some inputs and towards this cut import levies as a facilitation step for firms to buy from other geographies. Mr. Joshi said solvent availability was an issue for the industry.

RBI set for anti-mis-selling norms, focus on incentives

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Tackling head on: Main driver of mis-selling is commissions paid by insurers, which fall under IRDAI's purview. REUTERS

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may announce final guidelines on 'Responsible Business Conduct' - rules to prevent mis-selling by banks soon, to protect the interest of citizens.

The draft guidelines with likely implementation date of July 1 are expected to outline how banks should distribute third-party financial products, especially insurance and how to make insurance distribution more transparent.

But the main driver of mis-selling is commissions paid by insurers, which fall under IRDAI's purview.

IRDAI, examining the issue since 2023, initially capped total management expenses, including commissions. However, commission expenses across life and non-life insurance continued rising faster than premiums.

As per IRDAI's latest annual report, total commissions in life insurance alone stood at ₹60,800 crore in FY25, up 18% year-on-year, while premiums grew in single digits.

First-year commissions rose over 20% while single-premium payouts jumped nearly 37%. Industry executives said this reflected aggressive acquisition strategies of insurers.

Reportedly, an elderly woman was recently made to withdraw all her fixed deposits to buy a single-premium policy and this case highlighted how agents get enriched, at the cost of customers who ended up paying higher premiums to enable insurers to pay higher commissions for customer acquisition.

Significant changes

IRDAI is proposing significant changes in the insurance commission structure to address rising costs and ensure sustainability.

Reportedly the regulator is considering fixing commissions itself rather than leaving it to insurers or introducing any caps.

However, it may not be the most effective way to curb malpractices, as per industry officials.

"Instead, IRDAI could consider making the board of insurance companies responsible and accountable for fixing commissions.

Insurers could be required to adopt a board-approved commission policy ensuring commissions stay within overall Expense of Management (EOM) limits, supported by regulatory disclosures. This would create accountability at the highest level while still allowing flexibility," an industry official said.

"A still better solution would be to stagger the payment of commissions," the official added.

Today, banking distributors earn most of the commission upfront, often passed on as incentives to staff authorised to sell insurance. The quantum can be significant and because it is largely front-loaded, it tilts the scales.

Sellers are motivated to push products aggressively, secure fee and move on.

Moving toward trail-based commissions and removing sales inducements may not just curb mis-selling but help restore trust in insurance itself, according to some industry officials.

Weighty problem: Currently, Indian raw material prices are more than the international prices for the plastics sector.

Input costs for plastic sector still high despite Customs levy sop

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

For the plastic manufacturers and manmade fibre textile sector, the Customs Duty exemption on 40 petrochemical products has not given any relief in input prices.

"With the Customs Duty exemption for PTA and MEG, which are the main raw materials for the MMF textile sector, the yarn prices should have reduced at least 5%. But, it has not happened," said former president of the Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ashish Gujarati. MMF stakeholders held a meeting with the Textile Commissioner and reiterated their demand for a reduction in raw material prices, he said.

According to textile mill sources while polyester prices have reduced, yarn prices will correct in the coming days.

According to Anil Reddy Vennam, senior vice president of the All India Plastic Manufacturers Association, the raw material prices went up 65 % in the first 15 days of the U.S.-Israel, Iran war. The latest was on April 2 though the government announced a waiver of Customs Duty on 40 petrochemical products. Input prices for the plastic industry have seen ₹86/kg hike since the war started.

This is leading to hike in prices of various plastic products, including shampoo sachets and biscuit covers. Even the public sector undertakings that supply the raw materials are increasing the prices, he claimed.

Almost 90% of the Indian plastic manufacturers are in the MSME sector and out of the total, 50,000-75,000 industries are in the organised sector.

Though many of them are negotiating with international suppliers of raw materials, they are reluctant to finalise contracts because the delivery will take over a month and there is no certainty on what prices would be then.

Currently, Indian raw material prices are more than the international prices for the plastics sector. This has impacted production severely, he said.

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Sl. No.	Description	e-Tender Reference	Tender Floating Period	e-Tender Submission Duration	Date and time of online opening of Technical Bids
1.	Online Tender for the special procurement of **Essential Drugs and Medicines / Surgical Consumables** to TNMSC Limited	**e-008 / M(P) / MED / TNMSC / 2026, Dated. 06.04.2026**	**06.04.2026 at 4.00 PM to 15.04.2026 upto 3.00 PM**	**07.04.2026 at 10.00 AM to 15.04.2026 upto 3.00 PM**	**15.04.2026 at 4.00 PM**

The tender document can be downloaded and the tender shall be submitted at **https://tntenders.gov.in/**. The tender document can also be downloaded at **www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in** for reference purpose.

DIPR/1825/Tender/2026

Tender Inviting Authority / General Manager (Drugs)

Nuclear fusion cost models too optimistic to be viable: experts

Vasudevan Mukunth

Researchers and investors worldwide are currently pouring billions of dollars into nuclear fusion in the hopes that it will prove to be a reliable source of green power. These investments often bank on economic models that assume the cost of the underlying technologies will drop rapidly as the industry expands. However, researchers have published an analysis in *Nature Energy* concluding that these projections are based on arbitrary numbers rather than hard evidence.

The authors, from ETH Zürich in Switzerland, have added that if investors continue to use over-optimistic forecasts, they risk misallocating vital funds that can be routed to other, more fruitful climate mitigation plans.

The team's analysis focuses on the percentage by which a technology's cost drops every time its global capacity doubles – a factor called the experience rate. Solar panels and batteries have high experience rates, so their prices have plummeted in the last decade. Current nuclear fusion models often assume experience rates between 8% and 20%. After interviewing 28 experts in magnetic fusion and laser-based inertial fusion technologies, the researchers found that these figures are likely too high.

Fusion plants are bound to be large, with experts estimating even the smallest viable facilities having to produce hundreds of megawatts to overcome the energy requirements of their own cooling and heating systems.

Nuclear fusion is also extraordinarily complex, with experts rating design complexity as being equal to or even exceeding nuclear fission. One expert described a traditional fission reactor as "trivial" compared to a fusion reactor. Magnetic fusion devices also use an onion-like structure where changing even one component requires redesigning the whole system, making it difficult to streamline manufacturing. Fusion plants also have to be tailored to the local seismic risk, access to cooling water, and the regulatory regime, preventing mass production.

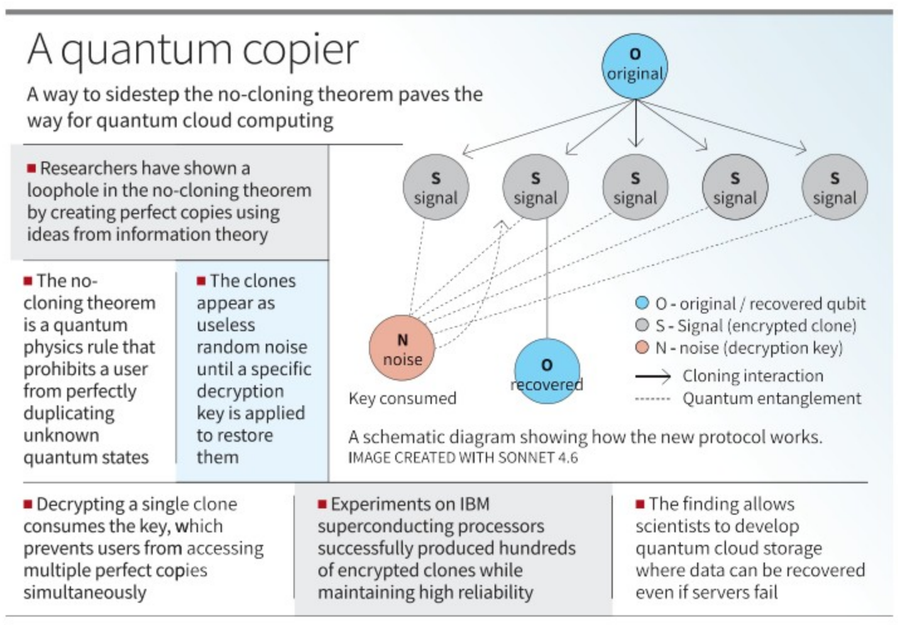
Taken together, the researchers estimated that fusion power's experience rate is closer to fission power's historical rate, around 2%. Because the technology's capital costs are also high, a low experience rate foretells a significant challenge to becoming price-competitive with solar or even advanced fission.

The researchers instead urge the research community to consider alternative designs, such as those using different fuels or smaller reactor configurations, which could offer the potential for better cost reductions.

'Cloning' hurdle skirted to perfectly copy quantum state

The no-cloning theorem is a quantum physics rule that prohibits a user from perfectly duplicating unknown quantum states; researchers have reported a way around it that could pave the way for technologies like quantum cloud storage

S. Srinivasan
Vasudevan Mukunth


A quantum copier
A way to sidestep the no-cloning theorem paves the way for quantum cloud computing
Researchers have shown a loophole in the no-cloning theorem by creating perfect copies using ideas from information theory
The no-cloning theorem is a quantum physics rule that prohibits a user from perfectly duplicating unknown quantum states
The clones appear as useless random noise until a specific decryption key is applied to restore them
Decrypting a single clone consumes the key, which prevents users from accessing multiple perfect copies simultaneously
Experiments on IBM superconducting processors successfully produced hundreds of encrypted clones while maintaining high reliability
The finding allows scientists to develop quantum cloud storage where data can be recovered even if servers fail
O original
S signal
S signal
S signal
S signal
S signal
N noise
O recovered
Key consumed
O - original / recovered qubit
S - Signal (encrypted clone)
N - noise (decryption key)
Cloning interaction
Quantum entanglement
A schematic diagram showing how the new protocol works.
IMAGE CREATED WITH SONNET 4.6

Quantum physics has a rule called the no-cloning theorem that prevents you from making a perfect copy of an unknown quantum state. It has shaped everything from quantum cryptography to quantum computing, and researchers have largely accepted it as an inalienable constraint.

Copying data in classical computing is trivial. We routinely copy files to the cloud for backup and make copies of code to share it. Quantum computers, however, cannot do any of this in the obvious way because of the no-cloning theorem, which is thus a serious obstacle to building robust quantum infrastructure.

But recently, a team of physicists from Japan, Canada, Germany, and IBM Quantum experimentally demonstrated a loophole in the theorem, showing that quantum information can indeed be duplicated provided the clones remain encrypted.

A key for noise

Previous researchers had developed approximate methods that produced imperfect copies with about 83% fidelity, the proven maximum for these approaches. But these copies were noisy and impractical.

In 2023, Koji Yamaguchi and Achim Kempf – two of the new paper's authors – reported the loophole (published in *Physical Review Letters* on January 6 this year). Rather than accepting degraded copies, they proved (on paper) that it is possible to create perfect ones as long as each copy is scrambled by quantum noise so that it is individually useless.

This noise is not random. It is recorded in a set of 'noise qubits' that serves as the decryption key. To create clones, the original qubit is allowed to interact with a series of signal qubits, called the quantum register, in a way that spreads the information across signal qubits. At this stage, each new qubit is a clone but also a maximally mixed state, meaning it looks like random noise to an observer.

When you want to recover the original state, you apply the decryption operation to any one of the encrypted clones using the full set of noise qubits. This restores the original perfectly. But the decryption process consumes the key. So after you decrypt one clone, the key is gone and every remaining clone becomes permanently scrambled. Which means you only get one perfect recovery. (The no-cloning theorem says you cannot freely access multiple identical copies.)

Four tests

To test this idea, the team ran experiments directly on the IBM Heron R2 superconducting processors, which feature 156 physical qubits, using up to 154 qubits across four experiments.

The first experiment measured how fidelity – how close the recovered state is to the original state – decayed as the number of encrypted clones grew from 2 to 15. The team found that making more copies did not make each copy harder to recover. The second test confirmed that the clones were quantum rather than classical.

The third was the most ambitious. Instead of creating all clones in a single step, the team cloned one qubit, then cloned those clones, and so on.

Using all 154 available qubits, the researchers found that with more qubits with equal levels of noise, up to 729 clones could be produced while keeping the signal detectable.

Finally, the team applied the protocol in parallel across multiple qubits simultaneously entangled in a GHZ state – a complex form of entanglement involving many qubits. And they confirmed that they could use encrypted cloning to back up entire quantum registers rather than just single isolated qubits.

According to the authors of the study, their experiments require scientists to refine the understanding of the no-cloning theorem. They argued that the real constraint is not that quantum information cannot be copied and spread widely – it can – but that the access to that information is restricted and that each setup allows only one shot at retrieving it.

Rare instance

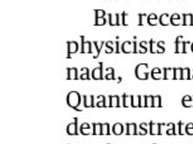
"For example, encrypted cloning enables... redundant quantum cloud storage: a quantum cloud storage provider hosts encrypted clones of a client's quantum data on separate servers," the authors wrote. "As long as at least one of the servers survives, the client can recover all of their data perfectly by decrypting the surviving clones. Quantum cloud storage could serve as a platform also for quantum cloud computing."

This is a rare instance in which a new, profound idea has been tested almost immediately, and the initial results prove that the protocol performs as expected.

A key advantage of this protocol over many earlier proposals is that the recovered qubit is identical to the original state rather than an approximate copy. The work is sure to stimulate further research on building reliable quantum memories, which are essential for many quantum information processing protocols.

(S. Srinivasan is a professor of physics at Krea University)

Speeding up enzyme reactions in microbes using light



SPEAKING OF SCIENCE
D. Balasubramanian

We know photosynthesis is a feature of plants which absorb sunlight and use the energy to convert atmospheric CO_2 into glucose. While sunlight peaks in the 400-700 nm region (of wavelengths), scientists have shone ultraviolet radiation (well below 400 nm) on plants and found that this opens new avenues in enzyme engineering and drugs through photocatalysis – the process of using light to jumpstart chemical reactions.

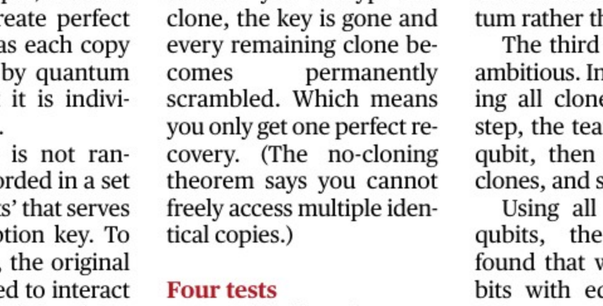
Light-activated enzymes turn light energy into chemical action. In some cases, light triggers lightning-fast shape changes that turn on the enzyme. These movements can now be tracked in real-time on a scale of trillionths of a second using ultra-fast imaging.

Researchers at Nanjing University, China, have used visible light to trigger inherent enzymes as catalysts, paving the way for manufacturing useful products and drugs. This technology, called 'photobiocatalysis', repurposes natural enzymes to produce novel products of medicinal value (*Organic Chemistry Frontiers*, 12 (16), April 2025, pages).

Photobiocatalysis pairs the energy of light with the precision engineering of enzymes, allowing scientists to assemble very complex structures.

Use of microbes

Some plants have been found to contain an alkaloid called securinine. The genes that make this alkaloid resemble bacterial genes and have been borrowed from bacteria that invade plants. This discovery has allowed scientists to look for more such repurposed genes in plants and find new paths for drug discovery. These use the molecules offered by microbes in order to produce new defence molecules that are toxic.



Antaya University, Türkiye, researchers have used *E. coli* bacteria as a versatile factory to produce useful compounds. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Taking a cue from this transfer of genes seen in nature, scientists have engineered the yeast *Pichia pastoris*, which is found in the soil, to help produce two plant-derived anti-cancer drugs called vinblastine and vincristine (*Nature Synthesis*, 2, 231-242, 2023). These alkaloids, found in the periwinkle plant, are very complex molecules that are put together by the coordinated action of 30 enzymes.

There is also increasing use of intact organisms like mice or zebrafish, and even the bacterial workhorse *Escherichia coli* to produce novel chemicals of use in agriculture or medicine.

Driven by light

İbrahim İncir and Özlem Kaplan from the genetics and bioengineering faculty of Antaya University, Türkiye, have shown that *E. coli* is a versatile cell factory, which has been used to produce novel and useful products such as insulin and other cost-effective proteins of medical interest. Scientists at Kobe University, Japan have similarly used *E. coli* to produce pyridine dicarboxylate, a degradable plastic (*Nature Chemical Biology* 21, 1171-1181 (2025)).

And researchers from DuPont, Wilmington, Delaware have used *E. coli* to convert glucose to an industrial styrene polymer (*Metabolic Engineering* vol. 9, issue 3, May 2007). Likewise, Ajikumaran et al. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the U.S. have used *E. coli* to synthesise the precursor of the anti-cancer drug Taxol.

The most recent application of combining photobiosynthesis with a microbial 'bioreactor' has come from the group of Huimin Zhao at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, who have engineered *E. coli* to produce non-natural olefins and reductases directly from glucose using enzymes activated by blue light. Using *E. coli* allows scientists to scale the process up for large scale production, where they combine biosynthesis with photo-biotechnology (*Nature Catalysis* vol. 9, January 2026, pages 62-72). They also point out that this approach has the potential for large-scale chemical production where reactions driven by light are integrated into cellular metabolism.

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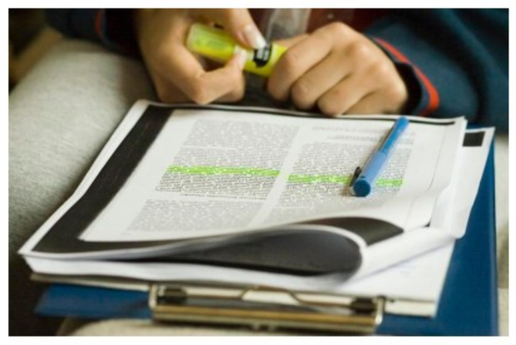
SNAPSHOTS

Scientists find one reason why northwest India floods more

Scientists reported evidence of two subseasonal weather patterns turning northwestern South Asia, including northwest India, from a semiarid region into a flood-prone one. First, the tropical monsoon intra-seasonal oscillation strengthened and penetrates deeper inland. Second, the mid-latitude oscillation, a wave of air moving along the jet stream, has slowed, keeping rain-producing systems stuck over the region for longer periods. Together, these changing oscillations account for 44% of the observed increase in flood frequency.

New data explain how black holes have 'forbidden masses'

The theory of stars predicts that a dying star can't form a black hole weighing 50 to 130 solar masses, yet gravitational wave observations have detected several black holes in this mass range, puzzling astronomers. By analysing the latest data collected by instruments in Japan, Italy, and the U.S., scientists have now explained this discrepancy as being the result of hierarchical mergers: when two lighter black holes merge to form a heavier one.



'Chinese researchers account for too many retractions'

Finnish researcher Jonas Oppenlaender analysed 46,087 retractions across 10 publishers from 1997 to 2026 and found authors affiliated with China accounted for more than 52% of all retractions, a rate roughly 4x higher than China's publication volume. Oppenlaender attributed this to 'publish or perish' cultures and the rise of paper mills. His analysis confirmed that each publisher's rules determine how much problematic research is actually removed from the public record.

Question Corner

Bon appetite and voyage

Before refrigeration, how did seafarers preserve food on long voyages?

– Prabhakar Jonnalagadda

To preserve a food item meant to remove moisture, increase acidity and/or to use natural preservatives. Meats and fish would be hung over fires before departure as the smoke deposited antimicrobial compounds into the flesh. Then, sailors would pack meat in wooden barrels with dry salt. Fish, especially cod, were dried on wooden racks in the open air until stiff.

Vegetables were stored in vinegar or salt brine. Sauerkraut was a staple on long voyages and its high acidity preserved it and provided vitamin C, helping prevent scurvy. Dried peas, beans, and lentils stored well without any treatment and were a staple of hot meals.

Ships also carried live chickens, pigs, goats, and sometimes cows, penned on deck that provided fresh eggs, milk, and meat in the early weeks of a voyage before being slaughtered one by one.

All said, scurvy, caused by vitamin C deficiency, killed more sailors than storms and battles combined, as these methods didn't work for fresh produce.

Readers may send their questions / answers to science@thehindu.co.in

How did the 'Amaravati Bill' come into place?

Why has Amaravati been declared the sole capital of A.P.? Why did the A.P. Reorganisation Act need to be amended?

V. Raghavendra

The story so far:

On April 2, Parliament passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to recognise Amaravati as the sole and permanent capital of Andhra Pradesh. There was broad political consensus regarding the passing of the Bill, with even the principal Opposition party, the Congress, extending support to it. Only the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), which had earlier proposed a three-capital plan for the State, opposed it.

What is the background of this Bill?

The undivided State of Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated in 2014 with the passing of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. This facilitated the creation of the State of Telangana and residual Andhra Pradesh. The Act specified that Hyderabad could be used as the capital by both the States for a period not exceeding 10 years, after which Andhra Pradesh had to establish its own capital.

After the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) came to power in Andhra Pradesh in 2014, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu declared that Amaravati would be the new capital of the State and moved his administration out of Hyderabad. However, the project fell into a limbo after the YSRCP came to power in 2019 and proposed three capitals instead: Visakhapatnam as the executive capital, Amaravati as the legislative capital, and Kurnool as the judicial capital.

> The Andhra Pradesh government believed that the only way to prevent a future dispensation from shifting or splitting the capital was to amend the Reorganisation Act.

In March 2022, a three-judge Bench of the Andhra Pradesh High Court ruled that the capital could not be shifted out of Amaravati, primarily on the ground that the State lacked the legislative competence required to reverse a policy decision taken in 2014-15. The YSRCP government challenged the High Court judgment in the Supreme Court by filing a Special Leave Petition (SLP).

The SLP was pending when the NDA returned to power in the State. The Naidu government filed an affidavit in late 2024 in the apex court, affirming its commitment to develop Amaravati as the capital. The SLP, filed by the YSRCP government, is in the process of being withdrawn, in alignment with the present government's vision of building a greenfield capital.

What does the Bill say?

On March 28, 2026, the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly adopted a resolution requesting the Union government to grant statutory recognition to Amaravati as the State's sole capital. The resolution sought an amendment to Section 5 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, to explicitly name Amaravati as the capital and end the ambiguity caused by previous three-capital proposals. Following the request, the Union government introduced the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

As mandated by Section 5 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, Hyderabad served as the joint capital for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for a decade starting June 2, 2014. This arrangement concluded on June 2, 2024, after which Hyderabad became the exclusive capital of Telangana, leaving Andhra Pradesh to establish a new capital.

The new Bill seeks to declare and notify Amaravati as the sole capital city of Andhra Pradesh with effect from June 2, 2024, by inserting the words "at Amaravati" to Section 5(2) of the 2014 Act and adding the phrase "and Amaravati includes the capital city areas notified under the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority Act, 2014" to the explanation to Section 5.

Why amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014?

Amending the Act is essential because the genesis of the capital of the successor State of Andhra Pradesh lies in this Central legislation. Amaravati needed to be explicitly recognised as the capital with statutory backing. The State government believed that the only way to prevent a future dispensation from shifting or splitting the capital was to amend the Act.

Why has the YSRCP opposed the Bill?

YSRCP MPs said they were not opposed to the Bill declaring Amaravati as the capital, but were unhappy with its "present form," as it allegedly ignores unfulfilled promises, especially with regard to the Land Pooling Scheme. This involves the voluntary contribution of land by farmers in exchange for smaller, developed, and high-value plots, making them partners in the development process. The YSRCP has argued that the interests of farmers who had parted with land for the capital project remain unaddressed. Party member P.V. Midhun Reddy said a clear timeline must be provided for compensating farmers and incorporated into the Bill.

Why does Trump want to pull out of NATO?

Why does the U.S. administration believe that NATO's founding principles and membership need to be 're-examined'? Why was NATO formed, and what are the recent developments that have led to fissures? Can the U.S. easily exit NATO? How much does it contribute to the alliance?

Suhasini Haidar

The story so far:

Last week, in an interview to the British newspaper, U.S. President Donald Trump said withdrawing U.S. membership from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is now "beyond reconsideration". Through this, he indicated that one of America's oldest alliances since World War 2 could be on the brink of a break-up.

The tough words, and the U.S. President's description of NATO as a "paper tiger", reflect an antagonism that goes back more than a decade that has been heightened during the ongoing war with Iran. Even so, the U.S. may not find it easy to exit the 32-nation, 76-year old alliance.

Why is Mr. Trump angry with NATO?

The immediate trigger for Mr. Trump's comments to *The Telegraph* was that most NATO allies refused U.S. requests for military and airspace support in connection with the war against Iran, where the U.S. has faced significant setbacks in recent weeks.

While Spain and Italy have directly criticised the U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran, France has denied U.S. military jets overflight permission to fly to Israel. Even the U.S.'s closest allies – the U.K., Germany, and Canada – have refused to take part in operations.

U.S. officials feel that this stand violates Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which states that "an armed attack against one NATO member shall be considered an attack against them all".

Two days before Mr. Trump's interview appeared, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio had also told an American television channel that NATO's founding principles and membership would have to be "re-examined". "If NATO is just about us (the U.S.) defending Europe if they're attacked, but them denying us basing rights when we need them, then that's not a very good arrangement," Mr. Rubio said.

> As per the North Atlantic Treaty, the U.S. government would have to hand itself the exit notice, and then inform other countries, which would make for an awkward process

The seeds of U.S. discontent with NATO had been planted by Mr. Trump ever since his first term as President, when he announced that NATO was "obsolete". He criticised European allies for not pulling their weight in military expenditure while depending on the U.S. for their defence. In Mr. Trump's second term, the rift grew over his rough treatment of Ukraine. More recently, he was angered that NATO members criticised the U.S.'s regime change operations in Venezuela and that they fiercely opposed his plans to annexe Greenland. With the U.S.-Israel war with Iran entering its sixth week, and no exit strategy in sight, European allies have become more determined in not joining the operations.

NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte during a press conference at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, on March 26, 2026. REUTERS

What is the purpose of NATO?

NATO (or OTAN, according to the French abbreviation) was formed in 1949, with the U.S., Canada and 10 West European countries which felt threatened by the Soviet Union, particularly after the installation of pro-Soviet Communist regimes in Eastern Europe and China. The North Atlantic Treaty, signed in Washington DC on April 4, 1949, created the inter-governmental military grouping mandated with "collective security". Over time, NATO gathered more members, including Greece and Turkey in the 1950s and Spain in 1982.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, more than a dozen East European countries joined, triggering a backlash from Russia. After Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, which was not a member, Finland and Sweden joined NATO, taking the total membership up to 32.

Ironically, although NATO was set up to counter the Soviet threat, NATO forces did not carry out a single military operation during the Cold War; it was only after conflicts in the Baltic states in the 1990s that NATO forces began joint operational missions, such as in Iraq (1990 and 2003), Bosnia (1992), Kosovo (1999), and Afghanistan (2001).

NATO does not have a separate independent force, but when required, combines resources and personnel of the 32 members that operate under a unified command structure called the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), based in Belgium. It is led by the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, a U.S. 4-star General or Admiral who heads the U.S. European Command.

Although Ukraine has now backed away from plans to join NATO, Ukrainian forces have worked closely with NATO after Russia launched its 'Special Military Operations' in February 2022. They have received major aid packages, including a $40 billion pledge at the NATO Summit in 2024, training, and security assistance.

As a result, Mr. Trump has complained that when it came to his demands that NATO members support U.S. operations in Iran, send their navies to help open up the Strait of Hormuz, or facilitate refuelling and overflight missions, their response should have been "automatic".

"We've been there automatically, including Ukraine," he said. "Ukraine wasn't our problem. It was a test, and we were there for them, and we would always have been there for them. They weren't there for us," he told *The Telegraph*.

How much does the U.S. fund NATO operations?

Throughout all these operations, the U.S. has provided much of NATO's funding, including 62% of the defence spending and about 15% of the civil budget of the alliance. It also provides NATO countries with a "nuclear umbrella" and maintains U.S. military bases that enhance deterrence in the region. Under increasing security concerns and U.S. pressure, all NATO members agreed at the 2025 Hague Summit to raise defence spending to 5% of their GDP by 2035, but Mr. Trump has continued to chide allies to share more of the burden.

How hard would it be for the U.S. to pull out of NATO?

A U.S. exit from NATO or the Alliance Treaty seems unimaginable and is many times more difficult than its exit from more than 60 different multilateral organisations and treaties, including the World Health Organization and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in January 2026, and much more legally complex than the U.K.'s exit from the European Union (Brexit) in January 2020.

Article 13 of the North Atlantic Treaty provides for the withdrawal of any member, but says the member must submit a one-year "notice of denunciation... to the Government of the United States of America, which will inform the Governments of the other Parties." As the depository authority, the U.S. government would therefore have to hand itself the notice, and then inform other countries, which would make for an awkward process.

In addition, and as a measure against Mr. Trump's own statements in his first tenure, the Biden administration pushed a law through the U.S. Congress in 2023 that prohibits the U.S. President from trying to "suspend, terminate, denounce, or withdraw the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty – without the advice and consent of the Senate or an act of Congress". Alternative paths could see the U.S. withdraw personnel from SHAPE or skip NATO meetings – in the manner India has withdrawn from attending SAARC summits – which would make the organisation virtually defunct.

In terms of its impact on the world order, especially in the midst of a war, the U.S.' withdrawal from NATO would lead to the remaking of all global security structures, severely weaken the hold of the Western coalition, and strengthen other global powers such as Russia and China. It is therefore more likely that both the U.S. and its NATO allies will work to avoid such a drastic step, beginning with the visit of NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte to Washington on April 8.

What are the concerns over the FCRA Bill?

How does the Home Ministry regulate foreign donations to NGOs in India? What are the key changes proposed to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026? Why has the Opposition objected to the Bill and why was the Bill deferred? What is its current status?

Vijaita Singh

The story so far:

The Central government proposed to introduce the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026 during the Budget Session of Parliament, which concluded on April 2. The Bill seeks to amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, under which registration is mandatory for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and associations to receive foreign funds or donations. It was introduced in the Lok Sabha on March 25; however, following an uproar by Opposition parties, its discussion and passage were deferred.

According to the statement of objects and reasons, around 16,000 associations are registered under the FCRA and receive approximately ₹22,000 crore annually. The Act regulates the acceptance and utilisation of foreign contributions to ensure that such inflows do not adversely affect national interest, public order, or national security.

> The Catholic Bishops' Conference of India said the Bill amounts to executive overreach and that it could unduly interfere with minority institutions and civil society

Opposition MPs demanding the withdrawal of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, during the Budget Session of Parliament, in New Delhi. ANI

What are the key changes proposed?

One of the key changes proposed in the Bill is the appointment of a 'designated authority' to take over, manage, or dispose of assets created from foreign funds when an NGO's FCRA registration is suspended, cancelled, or not renewed. This authority will have the powers of a civil court and can order the transfer or sale of assets owned by NGOs to either the government or any other body. The 2010 Act provided for regulation of foreign fund flows, but lacked a statutory framework for managing assets created from such funds. The government said that Section 15 of the Act provides for vesting of assets, but the absence of a comprehensive framework for the supervision, management, and disposal of such assets has led to administrative uncertainty and scope for misuse.

Another proposed amendment broadens the definition of an NGO's 'key functionary' beyond office bearers and directors to include trustees, partners, the Karta of a Hindu undivided family, governing body members, or anyone controlling or managing the organisation, and makes them liable for FCRA offences unless they can prove lack of knowledge or due diligence.

What are the other changes proposed?

The Bill seeks to amend Section 43 of the parent Act to require any law enforcement agency or State government to obtain prior approval from the Central government before initiating investigations into FCRA-related complaints.

It also proposes timelines for the receipt and utilisation of foreign contributions under the 'prior permission' category (one-time receipt of funds), and provides for automatic cessation of certificates upon expiry or non-renewal.

The Bill proposes to reduce the maximum imprisonment for FCRA offences from five years to one year. It also proposes fixed timelines for the utilisation of foreign funds received under the 'prior permission' category unlike the open-ended provision under the 2010 Act.

How does the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) regulate foreign donations in India?

The MHA regulates foreign donations in the country through the FCRA to ensure that such funds do not adversely affect the country's internal security. The legislation was first enacted in 1976. In 2010, it was repealed and replaced with a new legislation. The 2010 Act came into force on May 1, 2011 and has been amended in 2016, 2018, and 2020.

The FCRA registration is valid for five years, after which the NGO has to apply for a renewal. Since 2015, the FCRA registrations of more than 18,000 NGOs have been cancelled. As on April 3, there are 14,965 FCRA-registered NGOs active in the country. NGOs can receive foreign contributions for social, educational, religious, economic, and cultural programmes.

Why is the Bill being opposed?

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of India said the Bill amounts to "executive overreach" and raises concerns about "undue interference" in the functioning of minority institutions and civil society groups. The body objected to "clauses that grant sweeping powers to the Central government, allowing it to deny renewal or cancel licenses of organisations" and the powers "to assume control over institutions, including their funds, properties, and other assets." The Chief Ministers of poll-bound Tamil Nadu and Kerala have opposed the Bill as well.

What is the status of the Bill?

The Bill was deferred following an uproar by the Opposition. In Kerala and Tamil Nadu, there were fears it could be misused to seize assets of minority institutions, such as churches. Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party has been reaching out to the Christian community in Kerala to build a support base. The legislation remains active.

Exploring the new middle

Ro Khanna

The Democratic congressman, who combines points from America First nationalism with the welfarism of the Democratic left, proposes state support for the development of manufacturing and the working class, and calls for moderation in maximalist tech capitalism

Varghese K. George

The boundaries of the left and the right, conservatives and liberals, are all frayed in U.S. politics, as old ideas and loyalties collapse. The Democratic Party has not figured out a viable response to the chaos unleashed by Donald J. Trump a decade ago, in terms of leadership and ideas. Ambitious politicians are exploring the turmoil in the hope of chancing upon a career catapult. One who is increasingly in the spotlight is Rohit – Ro Khanna – who represents Silicon Valley in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Khanna was first elected to the House on the same day Mr. Trump was elected President in 2016. He has placed himself in the eye of the storm, hoping to come out on top on the other side. Mr. Khanna believes that the Democratic Party has become "stale", with "the same personalities. The same talking points. The same consultants. And I'm excited that you've got a lot of new voices that are emerging," as he said in an interview.

Mr. Khanna has broken from the orthodoxy of his home Democratic turf and sought partnerships with a spectrum of political players, getting tongues wagging about his plans for the 2028 presidential election. Would he run for the Democratic nomination? He has not said no, and that probably is a yes at the moment.

He is raising funds when he is not raising the political temperature in the country. Mr. Khanna is evidently testing the waters and figuring out whether he has a winning script. Among questions that remain unclear is whether his brown skin could turn out to be an advantage or disadvantage, which would depend on how the racial bipolarity of American politics turns out in the next season. The midterm elections of November will be a defining moment for Mr. Khanna's future – as it would be for the country's politics in general.

Mr. Khanna is pushing the boundaries of American political conversations in a measured manner – causing enough uproar to be noticed as a disruptor, and keeping it below the threshold of slipping out of lane. He has been at the forefront of a campaign for the release of the complete files related to Jeffrey Epstein, the dead convict in a sex-trafficking scandal that entangles a long list of America's powerful. He is questioning the President's powers for taking the country to war in the middle of yet another war the current incumbent, Mr. Trump, has taken the U.S. into.

Economic agenda

He has a comprehensive economic agenda that combines points from America First nationalism and the welfarism of the Democratic left. He proposes state support for the development of manufacturing and the working class, and calls for moderation in maximalist tech capitalism. "We need a Marshall Plan for America – the federal government working with the private sector, working with labour, working with universities to re-industrialise these communities," he said in an interview to the Foreign Policy magazine. He also stands for welfare expansion in health and education.

However, what marks out Mr. Khanna as an unmatched adventurer is his relentless questioning of Israel, and its influence in U.S. politics. That is a high-stakes gamble to be the voice of an evident but untested emerging strand of American politics – a bipartisan condemnation of Israel's expansionism and militarism. From an unquestioned bipartisan support for Israel, there is now an unmissable bipartisan critique of Israel across a spectrum of intensity. In September 2025, he posted on X agreeing with "the UN commission's heartbreaking finding that there is a genocide in Gaza". "What matters is what we do about it – stop military sales that are being used to kill civilians and recognise a Palestinian state."

In 2025, Mr. Khanna started a novel experiment of organising town hall meetings in Congressional districts held by Republicans in California. He explained it as a move to demonstrate accountability to the people. He was

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH

asked about his presidential ambitions by the *New York Times* then, and Mr. Khanna said it was immaterial. "Ambition is a good thing if it's used towards good ends...I'm of Hindu faith. And one of the great teachings of the Gita is if you do your duty without worrying about the reward, you're more likely to get rewards."

He has continued with similar statements that kept the ambiguity until now. Mr. Khanna has strong connections with India and Hinduism, but he is a strident critic of Hindutva. His maternal grandfather was a freedom fighter for India, and spent five years in a British jail – a fact that Mr. Khanna rarely misses an opportunity to mention.

Pro-Israeli groups in the country have perhaps noticed him the most, and soon after he called Gaza a genocide, AIPAC unleashed a campaign blitzkrieg in his district. He is also facing a primary challenge – his opponent is another Indian American who accused Mr. Khanna of being too involved in big politics at the cost of constituents. He has doubled down on his criticism of Israel. In early 2026, he

In September 2025, Ro Khanna posted on X agreeing with 'the UN commission's heartbreaking finding that there is a genocide in Gaza'; 'What matters is what we do about it – stop military sales that are being used to kill civilians and recognise a Palestinian state,' he said

said the United States should view Israel first and foremost as "an occupying nation violating human rights".

Expansion of politics

Mr. Khanna has appeared on several talk shows and podcasts hosted by hosts who hold controversial views, and believes that the expansion of politics will be in reaching out across the aisle rather than preaching to the choir. This approach to crafting a new middle is most pronounced in his enduring partnership with Thomas Massie, a Republican Congressman from Kentucky whom Mr. Trump is trying to unseat in November. Mr. Khanna and Mr. Massie have made an alliance on the Epstein files, opposing presidential fiat in war and other issues, and resisting the influence of Israel. Mr. Khanna explained that his politics and alliances are about questioning "elite impunity". "There's a sense in this country that rich and powerful people with connections don't play by the same rules," he told ABC7 San Francisco in an interview. Mr. Khanna does not take campaign money from Political Action Committees – an American mechanism to funnel big money into elections.

Mr. Khanna argues that institutional power – neocon foreign policy establishments, AIPAC, free-trade orthodoxy, and the Democratic old guard – has failed ordinary Americans, and that the corrective requires unlikely coalitions and willingness to say what others will not. Whether that is a governing philosophy or an extended audition is the question his 2026 primary will begin to answer.

THE GIST

- Ro Khanna has broken from the orthodoxy of his home Democratic turf and sought partnerships with a spectrum of political players, getting tongues wagging about his plans for the 2028 presidential election
- He has been at the forefront of a campaign for the release of the complete files related to Jeffrey Epstein
- He is questioning the President's powers for taking the country to war in the middle of yet another war the current incumbent, Mr. Trump, has taken the U.S. into

Mission moon

Artemis II

The U.S. has cast the programme to return American astronauts to the moon as part of a race against China, but Beijing views its mission differently

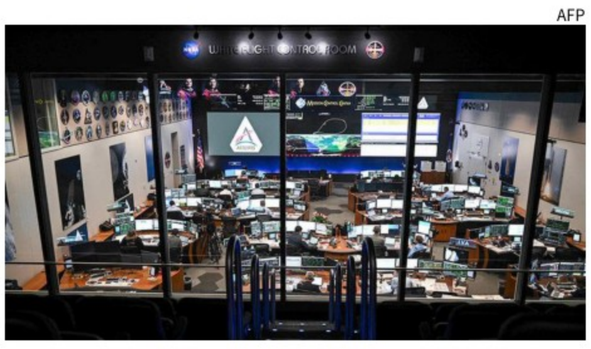
Vasudevan Mukunth

An irony hides in the context of the NASA Artemis II launch on April 2. The U.S. has both openly and in internal reports cast the Artemis programme to return American astronauts to the moon as part of a race against China. But as China in Space editor Jack Congram has pointed out, China does not believe it is racing the U.S. to the moon.

Instead, it has developed its programme to send Chinese astronauts (taikonauts) to the moon as part of a national programme, with ties to local industries and developmental goals. The Chinese government is thus committed to funding the programme and providing political support for it, allowing it to advance at a steady pace – one that has evidently unnerved the U.S.

Under pressure, NASA, in its public messaging at least, has responded by describing its priorities and urgency in terms of being in a race with the China National Space Administration (CNSA), with the U.S. state providing vacillating support for those priorities: swinging one way because of the costs, then the other because 'beating' China offers the prospect of projecting American supremacy in at least one high-technology domain, after having that undermined in semiconductor and clean energy.

AFP



The irony? As Mr. Congram put it, the liberal democracy "sees the moon as a proving ground in a geopolitical contest", with commercial connotations tacked on, while the party state "views it as an extension of long-term science-driven development". Perhaps this is not an irony at all given the success of China's state-directed techno-nationalist development in the last half century, or perhaps CNSA's apparent indifference to NASA's efforts is rooted in secure knowledge that it is, in fact, ahead. Either way, China is giving the U.S. more than a run for its money.

Chinese pressure

And if the Chinese pressure is taken away, the U.S. may lose the sole reason it is in such a rush to return American astronauts to the moon. Politicians, policymakers, and pundits have mentioned research and exploration but they don't seem to be driving forces. In fact, as astrophysicist Erika Nesvold has observed, neither the U.S. government nor NASA has formally articulated what is so objectionable about allowing Chinese astronauts on the moon first (a stand reminiscent of U.S. President Donald Trump's speech on the same day, April 2, about why he went to war against Iran.)

This extended preamble may be necessary to understand the NASA Artemis programme because, in general, the sights and sounds of any sufficiently 'large' space mission can spark enough awe and wonder to blow away sceptical thoughts. The spectacle alone can seem sufficient reason to do it.

When the 98-m-tall Space Launch System (SLS) rocket lifted off with the Orion capsule and its crew of four astronauts early on April 2, there were cheers on the ground and around the world. These machines were products of a sophisticated engineering effort. The rocket's core stage was powered by four RS-25 engines and two five-part boosters that together exerted more liftoff thrust than the workhorse of the Apollo missions.

This configuration was required to support the Orion crew capsule, which has been integrated with the European Service Module to provide propulsion and life-support systems. Orion is a little larger than a Maruti Suzuki Swift, weighs 11 tonnes (26 tonnes including the service module), can sustain a crew of four for 21 days, includes an advanced launch abort system for crew safety, and uses modern avionics and touchscreen interfaces instead of the largely analogue controls of earlier spacecraft. The capsule's 5-metre-wide heat shield is also the largest of its kind.

There is in all of us a tendency to equate one country's achievement in spaceflight as being indicative of what humans as a species are capable of. Space is hard and the astronauts who 'survive' it are (technically) proof that we can all survive it. But as much as this tendency is justified, and lends itself to gratifying romanticisms, it bears remembering that at least for now the Artemis programme is a flawed representative of the human aspirations for space.

At the global high table

Mohammad Ishaq Dar

A confidant of the Sharifs, the Foreign Minister is leading Pakistan's diplomatic reboot, from restarting ties with Bangladesh to mediation in the Gulf

Kallol Bhattacherjee

Early 1970s were the darkest years in the history of Pakistan. The country was defeated and divided by India in the war of 1971. The young generation, the first post-Partition generation, had a gloomy future ahead. In such a situation came the grand Islamic summit of 1974 that was organised by Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Presidents and Prime Ministers from all over the Islamic world came to Lahore. One of them, Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, became the darling of the crowd as he was already popular because of his anti-imperialist policy. Bhutto honoured Gaddafi by naming the biggest stadium in Lahore after him. Gaddafi returned the favour by opening the Libyan economy for Pakistani professionals and by investing in Pakistan.

One of the professionals of that time, a young Pakistani chartered accountant, Mohammad Ishaq Dar, was hired by Gaddafi's government to be a senior auditor in the Department of Auditor General in Tripoli, Libya. That was how current Foreign Minister of Pakistan, who is in global spotlight because of organising peace meetings with Foreign Ministers of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Turkiye to end U.S.-Israel's war on Iran, was introduced to the topsy-turvy world of international politics and diplomacy. Mr. Dar, hailing from a middle class Kashmiri family in Lahore, belonged to the first generation of Pakistanis who had no memory of united India. Having started as a director of finance of textiles outfit in London in 1974-76, Mr. Dar quickly branched out to the new petro-dollar rich world of the Arab monarchs and presidents.

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

Mr. Dar was still working in the financial sector when Pakistan was engaged by the U.S. in waging the anti-Soviet jihad in Afghanistan that ultimately evicted the Soviet Union from Afghanistan. The end of Soviet presence in Afghanistan coincided with return of democracy in Pakistan as General Zia-ul-Haq was killed in a mysterious air crash on August 17, 1988. The first post-Zia government was formed by the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) under Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Benazir's government was followed by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. Under the first Nawaz Sharif government, Mr. Dar headed the Pakistan Investment Board during 1992-93. He made his debut in the National Assembly next year which saw the return of Benazir Bhutto for her second and final term as Prime Minister.

The Sharif loyalist

Ishaq Dar has been part of the Nawaz Sharif-Shehbaz Sharif era of Pakistan Muslim League(N) for more than three decades and is one of the senior most leaders in the party after the Sharif brothers. He has served as Finance Minister on at least four occasions, starting with November 1998. His last stint as the Finance Minister was in September 2022 that ended in August 2023. He was sworn as the 39th Foreign Minister of Pakistan on March 11, 2024. He was appointed as the Deputy PM on April 28 by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Apart from holding global dialogue with stakeholders for the war in the Gulf, Mr. Dar is also the face of Pakistan's tough policy on the Taliban regime in Kabul. He has also carried out important initiatives by restarting Pakistan's ties with Bangladesh, after a gap of nearly one and half decades. However, these initiatives were made possible as Mr. Dar has the full political weight of the Sharif establishment as his son Ali Dar is married to Asma Nawaz Sharif, the less prominent daughter of Nawaz Sharif.

Ali Dar is an adviser to the Government of Punjab and is also known to be in charge of his father's social media activities and image management. Mr. Dar's presence in Pakistan government comes at a time when the children of the Sharif clan are taking up various assignments and are being groomed for national level responsibilities.

Already, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's son Hamza has served a brief tenure (April-July 2022) as the Chief Minister of Punjab, and Nawaz Sharif's daughter, Maryam Nawaz, is serving as the Chief Minister of Punjab. As the younger generation of the Sharif clan gets ready for key national roles, Mr. Dar is carrying out the responsibilities of the powerful family as he is evidently trusted by patriarch Nawaz Sharif.

KABUL

Twelve persons, including eight of one family, killed in Afghan quake

REUTERS

A 5.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Afghanistan's northeastern Badakhshan province overnight killed 12 people, including eight members of the same family with a child aged around two being the lone survivor, a government official and the Afghan Red Crescent said on Saturday. Houses of close to 40 families were damaged. AFP

TEHRAN

Iran executes two members of banned group, MEK, says judiciary

AFP

Iran on Saturday executed two men convicted of membership in a banned opposition group and carrying out disruptive actions aimed at overthrowing the Islamic republic, the judiciary said. The executions were the latest in a series targeting members of the banned People's Mujahedin of Iran (MEK). AFP

BASRA

Iraq shuts key Shalamcheh trade crossing with Iran after air strikes

REUTERS

Iraq closed the Shalamcheh border crossing with Iran after air strikes on the Iranian side killed an Iraqi citizen, security sources said on Saturday, shutting off a vital supply artery. The crossing serves as one of the main routes for imports of vegetables and other food supplies to Iraq from Iran, traders say. REUTERS

WASHINGTON

U.S. agents arrest relatives of Iran's military commander Soleimani

REUTERS

U.S. federal agents have detained the niece and grand-niece of late Iranian military commander Qassem Soleimani after Secretary of State Marco Rubio revoked their green cards, the State Department said on Saturday. "Hamideh Soleimani Afshar and her daughter are now in the custody of ICE," the State Department said. REUTERS

Israel strikes south Lebanon's Tyre after issuing evacuation warnings

Tens of thousands flee city due to evacuation orders, but about 20,000 residents stay put, including 15,000 displaced from surrounding villages; attacks extend to Tyre's port, Beirut's southern suburbs, and a West Bekaa bridge Israel struck earlier

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

Israel's military renewed its strikes on the southern Lebanese city of Tyre on Saturday after issuing evacuation warnings, following attacks on nearby buildings that damaged a hospital in the city.

The Israeli army struck three buildings it had warned people to evacuate, according to Lebanon's state-run *National News Agency* (NNA).

A missile hit an 11-storey building northeast of Tyre, completely destroying it and reducing it to a pile of rubble that covered a nearby gas station, a witness said.

Pile of rubble: Smoke rises from a building destroyed in an Israeli air strike in the southern port city of Tyre, Lebanon, on Saturday. AP

A second raid on a five-storey building near the city levelled half of it, leaving the other half standing.

The third strike was on the Burj al-Shamali Palestinian refugee camp, southeast of the city.

Tens of thousands of people have left Tyre, but around 20,000 remain, including 15,000 displaced from surrounding villages, despite Israeli evacuation warnings covering most of the city and a broad swathe of the south.

In separate statements, the Lebanese Health Ministry reported that an Israeli strike on Habbush killed at least two girls and wounded 22 people, while a strike on al-Hawsh near the coastal city of Tyre wounded 18.

A wave of attacks hit the Tyre area on Saturday, including one on its port that struck a small boat and damaged others moored nearby, the correspondent said. Dawn strikes also targeted Beirut's southern suburbs, a largely evacuated Hezbollah stronghold that has been attacked repeatedly during more than a month of war.

After attacking a bridge in the West Bekaa region in eastern Lebanon on Friday "to prevent the transfer of reinforcements and military equipment", Israel hit it again on Saturday, destroying it completely, the *NNA* said.

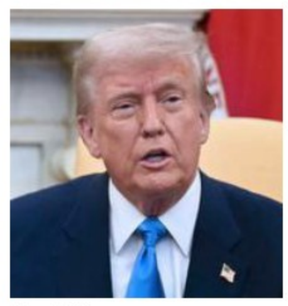
The Israeli military announced on Saturday the death of a soldier who "fell during combat in southern Lebanon", the 11th killed since the army began ground operations in the country.

Trump weighs Cabinet shake-up amid Iran war

Reuters
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump is considering a broader Cabinet shake-up in the wake of Attorney General Pam Bondi's removal this week, as he grows increasingly frustrated with the political fallout from the war with Iran, five people familiar with internal White House discussions said.

Any potential reshuffling could serve as a reset for the White House as it confronts a politically challenging stretch: The five-week-old war has driven up gas prices, dragged down Mr. Trump's approval ratings and intensified anxiety about the consequences for Republicans heading into November's midterm elections.



Donald Trump

Some allies said his televised speech to the nation on Wednesday – which one senior White House official described as an attempt to project a sense of control and confidence about the direction of the war – fell flat, adding to the sense that changes in messaging or personnel were needed.

Several of the sources said Tulsi Gabbard, Mr. Trump's director of national intelligence, and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick are among those potentially on the chopping block, after Mr. Trump ousted Ms. Bondi and Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem in recent weeks.

New files released earlier in the year revealed that Mr. Lutnick had lunch with Epstein on his private island in the Caribbean in 2012. Mr. Lutnick has said he "barely had anything to do with" Epstein.

White House spokesperson Davis Ingle said Mr. Trump maintained "total confidence" in Ms. Gabbard and Mr. Lutnick.

Two of the White House officials said Trump is extremely frustrated with what he perceives to be unfair media coverage of the war in Iran.

As jets take hit and Iran refuses to talk, cost of war is rising for Trump

NEWS ANALYSIS

Stanly Johny

"We are roaming free over Tehran, can do whatever," U.S. President Donald Trump said on March 25. "We literally have planes flying over Tehran... they can't do a thing about it," he told reporters on the South Lawn of the White House, listing what he called the achievements of the war. Nine days later, on the 35th day of the war, Iran shot down two American fighter jets and hit at least one Black Hawk helicopter, dramatically increasing the cost of war for the American President.

On March 5, the Israel Defence Force said Israel had destroyed 80% of Iran's air defence systems and more than 60% of its ballistic missile launchers, "a very significant achievement that reduces the damage to the home front". Pete Hegseth, the U.S. Secretary of War, stated on March 10: "[W]e are winning decisively with brutal efficiency, total air dominance...". Over the past few weeks, Mr. Trump had repeatedly claimed that the U.S. was winning the war. He said Iran was being "decimated"; its navy, air force, radars and anti-aircraft systems were all "destroyed". On April 1, in his primetime national address, Mr. Trump said the U.S. was completing all of its objectives of the war.

Demonstrators march during a protest against Donald Trump's administration policies, in Washington D.C. REUTERS

Air bases hit

Despite Mr. Trump's claims of "destroying" Iran's military capabilities, Tehran has continued to hit American bases in the Persian Gulf and hundreds of targets in Israel. According to an investigation of satellite images by the *New York Times*, "many of the 13 American military bases in the region are all but uninhabitable". [Both in Israel and the Gulf monarchies, there is a strict censorship on the impact of the Iranian attack.]

In his April 1 address, Mr. Trump compared the war on Iran with his January 3 attack on Venezuela when U.S. troops flew into the South American country, abducted its President Nicolas Maduro and got out.

The U.S. suffered no major human or material losses in the raid. But the war on Iran is turning out to be a different story. At least 13 U.S. servicemen have been officially confirmed killed since the war began, and hundreds of others were wounded.

The U.S. lost three F-15Es due to what the Pentagon called a "friendly fire" incident over Kuwait's skies on March 1. At least one F-35, the most advanced American fighter jet, was damaged and forced to make an emergency landing after Iranian air defence fire on March 19. On March 12, one KC-135 Stratotanker aerial refueling aircraft crashed in western Iraq due to "an accident". The Pentagon said the crash was not caused by enemy fire. A second KC-135 involved in the incident sustained severe damage.

At least six KC-135s were damaged in two Iranian missile and drone attacks at the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia. On March 27, one Boeing E-3 Sentry AWACS airborne surveillance aircraft was destroyed in an Iranian attack.

The U.S. has also lost at least 12 MQ-9 Reaper drones since the war began, according to some reports. Besides aircraft, America's AN/TPY-2 THAAD radar units (used for long-range missile detection) have been hit or destroyed at several bases in the Gulf and Jordan. Other radar systems got hit include AN/FPS-132 early warning radar at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar and AN/MPQ-64 Sentinel Systems.

USS Gerald R. Ford, the world's largest aircraft carrier, left combat operations after a fire broke out in the ship's main laundry area.

Enemy fire

Mr. Trump has so far played down the Iranian attacks. But he may not be able to to do the same about the losses on April 3 as the two jets went down – one in Iran and the other in the Persian Gulf. This was the first time since the war began enemy fire brought down an American fighter, according to U.S. officials.

The F-15E Strike Eagle was carrying a crew of two military officials when it came under Iranian fire. They ejected from the aircraft. According to U.S. media, one of them was rescued, while the status of the other crew member remained unknown. Separately, an A-10 Warthog, another Air Force combat plane, with the lone pilot, crashed in the Gulf. The pilot was reportedly rescued. It's not yet clear if the remaining crew member is in Iran's custody. The Black Hawk helicopter, which was involved in search and rescue operations, landed safely in Iraq after getting hit by Iranian fire, according to U.S. officials.

The U.S. and Israel have been pounding Iran for five weeks. Last week, Mr. Trump shared a post about strikes on Iran's tallest bridge. Independent information from inside Iran is scarce, but the attacks have caused enormous damages in Iran. Yet, despite thousands of airstrikes, Tehran's continued attacks show it still retains offensive capability and defensive firepower. As material losses mount, the political cost of the war – already unpopular at home – is rising for Mr. Trump, who has yet to outline an exit strategy. He has repeatedly said the war would end "soon" and urged Iran to make a deal or face "Stone Age" bombing. But Tehran appears in no hurry to negotiate.

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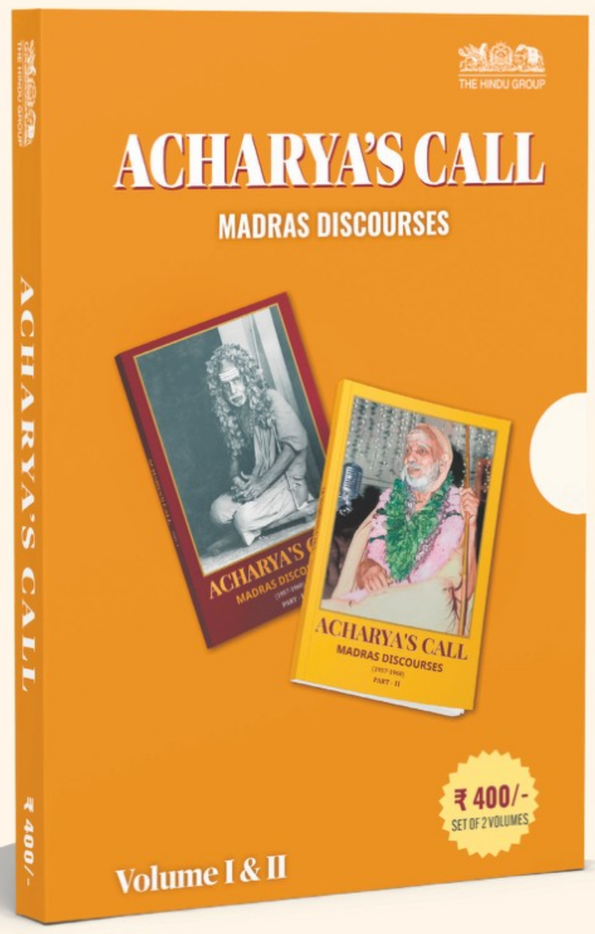

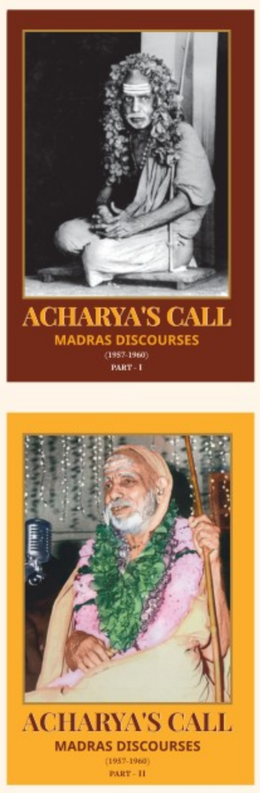

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These speeches, delivered in Madras between 1957 and 1960, were originally reported in *The Hindu* and later published as books in 1968 and 1995.

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NOT IDEAL

We fell short by around 20 runs: MI stand-in skipper Suryakumar

R.V. MOORTHY

When you're batting first, there's nothing like thinking about the score. We felt 180-185 was a good score and we fell short by 15-20 runs. We expected the wicket to be a little on the slower side, but still, from a batting point of view, we were a little short — Mumbai Indians stand-in captain Suryakumar Yadav.

GOT YOU, FINALLY!

Rahul's spotless record against Deepak Chahar vanishes

R.V. MOORTHY

K.L. Rahul's dominance over Deepak Chahar came to an end when he was dismissed by the pacer. Before the DC-MI match, Rahul had scored 160 runs off 103 balls in 13 innings against Deepak, and had never been dismissed by him in the IPL. This made him the highest-scoring batter against a bowler in IPL without getting out.

MIGHTY IMPRESSED

That's as good a ball striking as I've ever seen: Ponting on Priyansh

PTI

Punjab Kings head coach Ricky Ponting lauded young opener Priyansh Arya after his 11-ball 39 set up the five-wicket win over Chennai Super Kings. "That's as good a ball striking as I've ever seen. That opening partnership set up the game. After the first six overs, I wasn't concerned at all," said Ponting.

SECOND OFFENCE

Punjab Kings captain Shreyas gets ₹24 lakh fine for slow over-rate

R. RAGU

Punjab Kings skipper Shreyas Iyer landed in trouble again as he was fined ₹24 lakh after his team maintained a slow over-rate during its IPL match against Chennai Super Kings on Friday. This was PBKS' second offence of the season under Article 2.22 of the IPL Code of Conduct. As a result, Shreyas faced a heavier penalty.

Capitals ride on Rizvi's impact, stroll to victory against MI

His 51-ball 90 and half-century partnerships with Nissanka and Miller help the home team coast to a six-wicket win; Mumbai Indians' batting unit fails to get going as DC's fine bowling performance sets up the triumph

IPL-19

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

For the first two games of this year's Indian Premier League (IPL), Sameer Rizvi has been Delhi Capitals' designated Impact Player. On both occasions, the 22-year-old from Uttar Pradesh has fitted that role like a glove, propelling the Axar Patel-led franchise to two straight victories at the beginning of the 19th edition.

If Lucknow Super Giants was at the receiving end of Rizvi's exploits in DC's opener in Lucknow, it was the turn of Mumbai Indians to face the wrath of the youngster's willow at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Saturday.

Chasing 163 on a surface that wasn't the easiest for stroke-play, Rizvi's 51-ball 90 left an indelible impact as DC strolled to a six-wicket victory in 18.1 overs.

He forged a 66-run alliance with Pathum Nissanka, and then combined with David Miller to add 78 runs for the fourth wicket.

The five-time champion can take solace from the fact that it wasn't at full strength - Suryakumar Yadav was the stand-in skipper in the absence of an unwell Hardik Pandya.

Rizvi searched for fluency in the early part of his innings. But with Nissanka easy on the eye as ever whilst unleashing a flurry of boundaries, the Indian batter could afford to bide his time and reach 11 off 17 balls. After the Sri Lankan opener miscued a pull off Mitchell Santner in the 10th over, Rizvi duly took over with a raft of powerful strokes.

Star performers: Rizvi and Nissanka shone in DC's win with a crucial stand while Mukesh's early blows kept MI in check. R.V. MOORTHY

SCOREBOARD

MUMBAI INDIANS

Ryan Rickelton c Axar b Mukesh 9 *(11b, 2x4)*, Rohit Sharma c Nitish Rana b Axar 35 *(26b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Tilak Varma c & b Mukesh 0 *(2b)*, Suryakumar Yadav lbw b Ngidi 51 *(36b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Sherfane Rutherford c Mukesh b Vipraj 5 *(7b, 1x4)*, Naman Dhir c Stubbs b Natarajan 28 *(21b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Mitchell Santner (not out) 18 *(13b, 2x4)*, Corbin Bosch (not out) 11 *(4b, 2x4)*; Extras (lb-1, w-4): 5; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 162.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-18 (Rickelton, 2.3 overs), 2-18 (Tilak, 2.5), 3-71 (Rohit, 9.3), 4-85 (Rutherford, 11.5), 5-122 (Suryakumar, 15.3), 6-146 (Naman, 18.4).

CAPITALS BOWLING

Mukesh 3-0-26-2, Ngidi 4-0-34-1, Axar 4-0-22-1, Vipraj 3-0-24-1, Kuldeep 3-0-31-0, Natarajan 3-0-24-1.

DELHI CAPITALS

K.L. Rahul c Rickelton b Deepak Chahar 1 *(3b)*, Pathum Nissanka c Markande **(Impact Player for Rohit)** b Santner 44 *(30b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Nitish Rana run out 0 *(3b)*, Sameer Rizvi **(Impact Player for Mukesh)** c Tilak b Bosch 90 *(51b, 7x4, 7x6)*, David Miller (not out) 21 *(18b, 4x4)*, Tristan Stubbs (not out) 3 *(4b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-4): 5; Total (for four wkts. in 18.1 overs): 164.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-2 (Rahul, 0.4), 2-7 (Nitish, 1.4), 3-73 (Nissanka, 9.5), 4-151 (Rizvi, 16.2).

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING

Deepak Chahar 3-0-20-1, Bumrah 4-0-21-0, Santner 3-0-22-1, Shardul 3-0-41-0, Markande 2-0-20-0, Bosch 3.1-0-39-1.

Toss: Capitals.
PoM: Rizvi.
Capitals won by six wickets with 11 balls to spare.

Next assignment

MI: April 7 vs. RR
Guwahati, 7.30 p.m.

DC: April 8 vs. GT
Delhi, 7.30 p.m.

Earlier, MI's effort with the bat was off to a tepid start on a warm afternoon as Mukesh Kumar delivered two critical blows in the third over.

In view of the surprisingly slowish track, Rohit Sharma and Suryakumar went about staging a recovery with a measured 53-run stand off 40 balls.

As skipper of India's near-invincible T20 outfit, Suryakumar has harped on an ultra-aggressive outlook. But on this occasion, the 35-year-old was willing to pay heed to the conditions and drop anchor, taking 35 balls to raise the bat for his half-century. For MI to cash in towards the end, Suryakumar needed to ideally bat through. However, he fell leg-before to the wily Lungi Ngidi in the 16th over.

Holding his nerve: Deshpande gave away just four runs in the final over to thwart Titans. VIJAY SONEJI

Jurel, Jaiswal and Bishnoi star as Royals edge Titans

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
AHMEDABAD

Dhruv Jurel's efficient 75 (42b, 5x4, 5x6), Yashasvi Jaiswal's unfussed 55 (36b, 6x4, 3x6), and Ravi Bishnoi's four for 41 helped Rajasthan Royals edge Gujarat Titans by six runs in the latter's first home fixture of this IPL season at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Saturday.

With 30 needed off 18 balls in a pursuit of 211, Rashid Khan (24) and Kagiso Rabada (23 n.o.) tried to pull off a heist but failed.

Earlier, opener Sai Sudharsan produced an innings of soaring majesty (73, 44b, 9x4, 3x6). It wasn't just clean hitting, it was control disguised as ease. If T20 batting was a nightclub, he would be the guy reading a book in the corner and somehow owning the place. His innings made it seem the chase bent to his will, like grass in a hard wind.

For Royals, Jaiswal's innings was both silk and shrapnel, inlay and impulse. It had everything Jaiswal. The high-elbowed ease, the flat-batted fury, the pick-and-pummel, the shuffle-and-slice, the drift-and-ramp, and the stand-and-deliver.

Assault on Siraj

Jaiswal took Mohammed Siraj apart in one over, lofting him over covers for a six, flicking him past short fine leg for a four, and lofting him over mid-off for a four. He pulled Rabada for a six over deep midwicket and later shuffled across to ramp him over the 'keeper for a four.

Against Prasidh Krishna, he hit a straight six to long-on, nudged one behind square on the leg side for a four, and backed away to slice another four past backward point. He brought up his fifty with a four between extra cover and mid-off against Siraj.

Jurel's knock had streaky fours, but when he really clicked, it was T20 batting with a velvet glove. He seemed to operate in a version of the game where effort had been reduced to its essentials. A step, a lean, a swing – and the rest was delegated to timing.

Remarkably, he stepped out to Rashid to pick the googly and slug it over wide long-on for a six. Later, he dispatched both Ashok Sharma and Prasidh over deep midwicket with clean, decisive swings.

SCOREBOARD

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Yashasvi Jaiswal b Rabada 55 *(36b, 6x4, 3x6)*, Vaibhav Suryavanshi c Phillips b Rashid 31 *(18b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Dhruv Jurel c Buttler b Siraj 75 *(42b, 5x4, 5x6)*, Riyan Parag c Kushagra b Prasidh 8 *(4b, 1x6)*, Shimron Hetmyer c Siraj b Ashok 18 *(8b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Donovan Ferreira c Phillips b Rabada 1 *(3b)*, Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 7 *(7b, 1x4)*, Jofra Archer (not out) 1 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-13): 14; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 210.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-70 (Suryavanshi, 6.2 overs), 2-126 (Jaiswal, 12.3), 3-135 (Parag, 13.2), 4-165 (Hetmyer, 15.3), 5-166 (Ferreira, 16.1), 6-205 (Jurel, 19.3).

TITANS BOWLING

Siraj 4-0-48-1, Rabada 4-0-42-2, Ashok 4-0-37-1, Prasidh 4-0-43-1, Rashid 4-0-39-1.

GUJARAT TITANS

B. Sai Sudharsan c Deshpande b Bishnoi **(Impact Player for Ferreira)** 73 *(44b, 9x4, 3x6)*, Kumar Kushagra c Hetmyer b Parag 18 *(14b, 3x4)*, Jos Buttler c Sandeep b Burger 26 *(14b, 5x4)*, Glenn Phillips c Archer b Bishnoi 3 *(4b)*, Washington Sundar c Jadeja b Bishnoi 4 *(2b, 1x4)*, Rahul Tewatia c Jurel b Bishnoi 12 *(6b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Shahrukh Khan **(Impact Player for Prasidh)** run out 11 *(4b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Rashid Khan c Archer b Deshpande 24 *(16b, 3x4)*, Kagiso Rabada (not out) 23 *(16b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Ashok Sharma (not out) 0 *(1b)*; Extras (b-1, lb-1, nb-1, w-7): 10; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 204.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-78 (Kushagra, 7.6), 2-107 (Sai Sudharsan, 10.4), 3-127 (Phillips, 12.1), 4-131 (Washington, 12.3), 5-133 (Buttler, 13.1), 6-155 (Tewatia, 14.3), 7-161 (Shahrukh, 14.5), 8-204 (Rashid, 19.5).

ROYALS BOWLING

Archer 4-0-38-0, Burger 3-0-29-1, Sandeep 3-0-34-0, Deshpande 3-0-24-1, Jadeja 2-0-25-0, Parag 1-0-11-1, Bishnoi 4-0-41-4.

Toss: Royals. **PoM:** Bishnoi.
Royals won by six runs.

Next assignment

RR: April 7 vs. MI
Guwahati, 7.30 p.m.

GT: April 8 vs. DC
Delhi, 7.30 p.m.

Blitzkrieg: Priyansh took the game away from CSK. R. RAGU

'I believe in my abilities as much as I believe in myself'

S. Shrivathsan
CHENNAI

In the shortest format of this sport, impact beats quantity any day of the week. Hence, in an IPL game where nearly 420 runs were amassed in approximately 39 overs, a batter who faced just 11 balls walked away with the Player-of-the-Match award.

In the victory over Chennai Super Kings here on Friday, Punjab Kings opener Priyansh Arya was the fifth-highest scorer overall, but it was his quick-fire 39 – a flashy knock studded with four sixes and three fours – which had the strongest influence on the outcome of the duel.

For Priyansh, turning out in his second IPL season, providing brisk starts come naturally.

Risk involved, but...

"It has been like this since childhood. I play positively whenever I feel that it will benefit my team.

"There is risk involved, but if I have the belief that I can hit the first ball, I will do it," the 24-year-old said after bouncing back from a low score in the previous game against Gujarat Titans.

"There are experienced bowlers at this level, but I believe in my abilities as much as I believe in myself. I do proper practice for executing it."

Priyansh's PBKS teammate Shashank Singh hailed him for his mental toughness.

Mentally very tough

"Priyansh knows the areas he can score runs in, and he is mentally very tough although he does not speak much.

"He is young, but he has matured a lot with his batting. Technique has never been an issue for him. He will do well for sure," said Shashank.

Fasten your seatbelts whenever Priyansh takes strike, you are in for a ride.

Architects: Bishnoi scalped four after Jurel's 42-ball 75 took Royals to a big total. VIJAY SONEJI

Sparkling Royal Challengers host struggling Super Kings

It remains to be seen whether Hazlewood, who was seen practising on Friday, will take the field for the defending champion; the five-time victor has to get its act together, and quickly

IPL-19

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

In cricket's shortest format, the journey from hope to despair is often a freefall. Chennai Super Kings is the latest team to experience this.

The enthusiasm and joy that accompanied Sanju Samson's grand arrival, and the genuine expectation of faring better than the wooden-spoon finish in 2025, have dissipated into thin air.

In the time since Royal Challengers Bengaluru won its IPL opener in rousing fashion – by six wickets over Sunrisers Hyderabad a week ago – CSK has played twice and lost twice.

Sunday's clash between the two teams at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium doesn't feel like a battle among equals.

RCB is well-rounded and appears primed for its title-defence. Virat Kohli made an unbeaten 38-ball 69 against SRH while Devdutt Padikkal smashed a 26-ball 61.

Strong and robust: RCB has a galaxy of stars to turn to. K. MURALI KUMAR

The lone concern, about Josh Hazlewood's fitness, is also on the backburner after New Zealand pacer Jacob Duffy's match-winning effort (three for 22) on the opening night.

Hazlewood bowled in the nets on Friday, and was seen walking along the boundary ropes on match-eve. In Saturday's press conference, Jitesh Sharma was tight-lipped about the Aussie's availability, treating it like a State secret. It is not something RCB will sweat over, at least for this contest.

For CSK, apart from the absence of its talismanic leader M.S. Dhoni and a lack of bite in its bowling, the non-availability of dashing batter Dewald Brevis has hamstrung the outfit.

The South African practised ahead of the previous fixture against Punjab Kings, but it remains to be seen if he takes the field versus RCB.

CSK needs a spark, and one wonders where it will come from. Will the small boundaries of Chinnaswamy unshackle its batters? Will the potential ignominy of losing a fourth straight time to RCB wake the team up?

The Garden City, though, is in the midst of a Chennai-like sultry spell, with an outside chance of some rain. Will CSK feel at home?

Can Super Giants score over Sunrisers?

Anirudh Velamuri
HYDERABAD

The T20 format has tilted so heavily in favour of batters that Chennai Super Kings head coach Stephen Fleming recently suggested the very idea of a "finisher" may be fading, with teams now opting for all-out aggression from ball one. One will find Sunrisers Hyderabad at the genesis of this high-octane approach.

After a tame loss to Royal Challengers Bengaluru in their IPL 2026 opener, Sunrisers – dealing with critical deficiencies in their bowling arsenal – banked on their strongest department: batting.

The emphatic victory over three-time champion Kolkata Knight Riders was built on this ploy, with Abhishek Sharma and Travis Head's 82-run blitz, Heinrich Klaasen's vigil in the middle and Nitish Kumar's late surge pushing the side to 226. A brief three-wicket wobble in the middle did little to dent momentum.

Troubling questions

That said, a Pat Cummins-less bowling pool still poses troubling questions. Head coach Daniel Vettori had labelled the outing against RCB as one of the side's "poorer bowling performances."

The win over KKR would have been soothing, as Sunrisers became the first team to successfully defend a total this season, and on a surface expected to favour batters.

SRH's opponent for Sunday, Lucknow Super Giants, on the other hand, will look to rebound from a disappointing defeat to Delhi Capitals. History will provide comfort for the hurting side. Last season, Mitchell Marsh and Nicholas Pooran chased down 192 with nearly four overs to spare, and overall, LSG holds a 4-2 head-to-head edge over the Hyderabad outfit.

Bowling in the Power-Play will decide this contest at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium here.

In 2025, Sunrisers averaged 42.05 with an economy rate of 10.01 in that phase. Early signs suggest little improvement this season, with 149 runs already leaked with the new ball.

LSG, which reduced Capitals to 33 for four in the first six, will hope to replicate the early squeeze to decisively swing the contest in its favour.

Point to prove: Pant, after a run-out cut his innings short in the previous match, will be eager to get going. NAGARA GOPAL

> Like Pat (Cummins), he can bowl at all stages, which is crucial when scoring rates are high. Even if he doesn't start well, we trust him in the middle and at the death. With Pat unavailable, you can see Ishan (Kishan) using him in different roles
>
> **DANIEL VETTORI**
> on Jaydev Unadkat

Today's matches

SRH vs LSG	RCB vs CSK
Hyderabad, 3.30 p.m.	**Bengaluru,** 7.30 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD	HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 6	Played: 35
SRH 2 | LSG 4	RCB 13 | CSK 21 | NR 1
PREVIOUS MEETING	PREVIOUS MEETING
SRH won by six wickets, 2025	RCB won by two runs, 2025

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 & JIOHOTSTAR

We are hungry like we were last year, says Jitesh

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Royal Challengers Bengaluru vice-captain Jitesh Sharma said that the tag of a defending champion was not pressure-inducing.

"Mo Bobat, director [of cricket], clearly said we are not defending... we are chasing the title," Jitesh stated here on Saturday, ahead of RCB's clash against the Chennai Super Kings.

"We are hungry like we were last year. Lots of people have forgotten that we are champions. This is a new season. But we have the confidence that we have achieved something. With that confidence, we are going forward."

By the time RCB will line up for its game against CSK, a full week would have passed since Rajat Patidar's men played a match - the IPL opener against Sunrisers Hyderabad, which they won by six wickets. But Jitesh felt that the long gap wouldn't affect the team's momentum.

"Our management kept everyone on their toes. Even during the break, we played a practice game. So, we are very close to that intensity. We are not thinking that our team had a break."

Despite CSK's twin losses to Rajasthan Royals and Punjab Kings, Jitesh said Ruturaj Gaikwad's outfit cannot be taken lightly.

"It can be anyone's day. Someone can score runs. Someone can take a five-for.

"You can't judge that the next game will be the same if someone had a bad match in the previous game. We should respect all opponents equally, irrespective of what they have done in the past."

Eye on the ball: Jitesh said the RCB management, including Karthik, has kept everyone on their toes. K. MURALI KUMAR

CSK finds itself on the back foot following poor auction strategy

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

After finishing at the bottom in 2025, Chennai Super Kings rang in major changes ahead of this season. However, the fortunes haven't changed on the field for the five-time champion, which suffered its second straight defeat here on Friday.

Defending the total of 209, Ruturaj Gaikwad's men failed to assert control during Punjab Kings' chase. There was a distinct lack of energy on the field – something the skipper needs to address at the earliest.

Even as the team focused on addressing the batting woes, it was evident that the bowling attack lacked the depth and penetration to trouble the opponent.

Once Nathan Ellis, the key to the pace attack, was ruled out, the balance went for a toss.

Baffling

The decision to rope in Spencer Johnson as Ellis' replacement, despite the Aussie not being available for another three weeks, was baffling.

By the time the left-arm seamer – who hasn't played for nearly a year – joins his Super Kings mates, it might be too late.

At the auction, the Chennai outfit failed to secure a suitable backup for Ellis even as bowlers like Lungi Ngidi and Jacob Duffy were picked up by Delhi Capitals and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, respectively, at their base prices.

Early trouble: Super Kings have lost both their games. R. RAGU

CSK did not select an overseas middle-order/finisher as cover for Dewald Brevis, whose absence in the first two encounters hasn't helped things.

Incidentally, Super Kings fielded only two overseas players against PBKS.

Head coach Stephen Fleming, though, defended CSK's strategy.

"I am trying to think back to the auction process. Around all the names you have mentioned, I don't and can't remember the auction dynamics.

"There was a large list of bowlers who we looked at and missed out on who might have been out of form at that time but are in form now. But trust me, we went through everything.

"We need to execute our plans better. There's a lot of pressure on bowling units, especially in perfect (batting) conditions.

Good wicket

It was our first game on this ground (Chepauk), and it looked like a good wicket. Some of the batters are of high quality and if they have a (field) day, it's very difficult".

LIVE TELECAST

IPL: Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 3.30 & 7.30 p.m.
ISL: Sony Sports Ten 2 & FanCode, 5 & 7.30 p.m.
LaLiga: FanCode, 5.30, 7.45, 10 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Monday)
Serie A: DAZN, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Monday)
IFL: Sony Sports Ten 5 & LIV, 6.30 p.m.

Morale-booster: Vaishali registered a crucial victory by outwitting Lagno. FIDE

Vaishali, Divya pull off wins; Sindarov on song

CANDIDATES CHESS

Sports Bureau

On a day Javokhir Sindarov scored another victory to continue his total domination of the Candidates chess tournament, R. Vaishali and Divya Deshmukh posted much-needed wins to give India something to cheer about in the women's event.

Both Divya and Vaishali humbled their higher-rated rivals, Bibisara Assaubayeva of Kazakhstan and Kateryna Lagno of Russia respectively, in the sixth round at Pegeia, Cyprus, on Saturday. Both the Indians are now on three points.

Ukraine's Anna Muzychuk has moved into the sole lead, beating Zhu Jiner of China. She has four points.

Divya, Vaishali, Zhu, Lagno and Aleksandra Gorychkina of Russia are sharing the second spot on three points. Eight rounds remain.

Sindarov extended his sole lead to 1.5 points after his win with black pieces against China's Wei Yi, who had no escape after a blunder. It was the 20-year-old Uzbek's fourth win in a row, and fifth overall.

Sindarov has 5.5 points from six rounds, while the second-placed American Fabiano Caruana has four. R. Praggnanandhaa, who held top-seeded American Hikaru Nakamura, has three points.

The results (sixth round):
Open: Fabiano Caruana (USA) 4 drew with Andrey Esipenko (Rus) 2; Hikaru Nakamura (USA) 2 drew with R. Praggnanandhaa 3; Anish Giri (Ned) 3 drew with Matthias Bluebaum (Ger) 2.5; Wei Yi (Chn) 2 lost to Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb) 5.5.
Women: Zhu Jiner (Chn) 3 lost to Anna Muzychuk (Ukr) 4; Tan Zhongyi (Chn) 2.5 drew with Aleksandra Goryachkina (Rus) 3; Kateryna Lagno (Rus) 3 lost to R. Vaishali 3; Bibisara Assaubayeva (Kaz) 2.5 lost to Divya Deshmukh 3.

AFI's new directive

Nihit Sachdeva

All Indian track-and-field athletes will now have to take approval from the AFI before signing any sponsorship agreements.

A circular issued by the federation on Thursday said, "Keeping in mind the best interests of athletes and sponsors, AFI has made it mandatory for athletes to obtain approval from the AFI before entering into any agreement or contractual arrangement with any sponsor or third party." The circular was addressed to all State units, chief coach Radhakrishnan Nair, Reliance Foundation Youth Sports, JSW Sports, ONGC Sports, Go Sports Foundation, OGQ and other potential sponsors.

"There are agents who keep bringing top athletes to these private organisations. For two months, they're at one top company and immediately after, they are brought to another. We want to ensure that these private organisations are not being influenced by agents," said Adille Sumariwalla, the AFI selection committee chairman.

"These agents and some coaches are making money on the side and using athletes as a commodity. We want to ensure that the athletes are not taken for a ride," the former AFI president added.

Welcoming the move, Rahul Trehan, CEO at IOS Sports & Entertainment, said, "In certain cases, the agreements are not balanced. Athletes don't have the termination clause but the agencies do. So, if the governing body of a sport is doing this to maintain a balance between the athlete and (the sponsors) and to oversee things, it is fine."

Manisha Malhotra, JSW Sports' head of sports excellence and scouting, argued: "I don't agree with federations trying to control athletes. Those days are gone. The flip side is that athletes are taking the system for a ride and maybe that's why AFI is trying to govern that way. There's merit on both sides. We'll see whether it's beneficial to sport or not".

Sreeshankar and Ancy jump to gold and glory

ATHLETICS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Murali Sreeshankar and Ancy Sojan won the men's and women's long jump events in the Indian Athletics Series-1 at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Saturday. Sreeshankar, the 2022 Asian Games silver medallist, had a good outing, going past the eight-metre mark in five of his six attempts. His 8.13m third effort was enough to finish clear of Bihar's Sunny Kumar (7.90m). Reliance's Ancy dominated the women's long jump, while 2025 Asian Championships bronze medallist Shaili Singh disappointed.

Ancy took the lead with a leap of 6.54m in her first attempt. Shaili started with a 6.52m jump, but followed it up with four fouls.

Shaili's coach and 2003 World Championship bronze medallist Anju Bobby George offered tips and encouragement from the sidelines, but her ward did not pull the trigger on the take-off board to finish her final attempt with a weak 4.99m effort.

The results (winners): Men: 100m: Tamil Arasu (Railways), 10.23s; **200m:** Jishnu Prasad (BSF), 20.76m; **800m:** Anu Kumar (UTK), 1:48.21s; **5,000m:** Harmanjot Singh (JSW), 14:21.07s; **110m hurdles:** M. Krishik (Reliance), 13.87m; **Triple jump:** Abdulla Aboobacker (Air Force), 16.82m; **Long jump:** Murali Sreeshankar (NCOE, Trivandrum), 8.15m; **High jump:** Anil Sarvesh (Mah), 2.23m; **Discus:** Bhartpreet Singh (Reliance), 55.86m; **Shot put:** Samardeep Singh (MP), 19.74m; **Javelin:** Bibin Antony (Ker), 77.53m; **Women: 100m:** R. Giridharani (TN), 11.53s; **200m:** Rashdeep Kaur (JSW), 24.09s; **800m:** V. Kavitha (TN), 2:07.57s; **5,000m:** D. Prachi (Mah), 17:14.12s; **100m hurdles:** C. Anjali (JSW), 13.44s; **Triple jump:** B. Babisha (Railways), 12.80m; **Long jump:** Ancy Sojan (Reliance), 6.54m; **High jump:** Pallavi Patil (Kar), 1.76m; **Javelin:** Karishma Sanil (Reliance), 50.24m; **Discus:** Bhavana Yadav (Del), 52.41m; **Shot put:** Akanksha Kenja (Kar), 11.89m; **Pole vault:** Baranica Elangovan (TN), 4.10m.

In fine fettle: Sreeshankar had a field day, topping the eight-metre mark in five of his six attempts. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Payal stuns Sheetal to bag compound women's title

The 18-year-old shows grit to get the better of the World champion in gold-medal match; in a field featuring archers from nine countries, India finishes on top with 16 medals, including seven gold

PARA ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

Payal Nag, the world's first quadruple amputee archer, stunned her training partner and World champion Sheetal Devi 139-136 to clinch the compound women's title at the first World Archery Para Series in Bangkok on Saturday. Payal took an early 27-25 lead before Sheetal, an armless archer, levelled at 54-54. But Payal fought back for a three-point lead and won gold.

In a field featuring archers from nine countries in the World Para Series, India finished on top with 16 medals, including seven gold, five silver and four bronze. Indians bagged three medals on the basis of qualification rankings. Swati Chaudhary and Anju Tanwar (946) won silver in W1 women's doubles, while Swati and Adil Ansari (1119) took W1 mixed team silver. In W1 men's doubles, Adil and Vinayak Breed (1209) won bronze.

Dominant show: Payal, right, and Sheetal ensured a 1-2 finish for India. WORLD ARCHERY

The results: Gold-medal match: Recurve men's doubles: India (Harvinder Singh, Vijay Sundi) bt Chinese Taipei (Li Bing-yu, Tveng Lung-Hui) 6-2; **compound men's doubles:** India (Toman Kumar, Shyam Sunder Swami) bt Chinese Taipei (Wu Chung-Hung, Yang Jyun-Kai) 153-146; **compound women's doubles:** India (Sheetal Devi, Payal Nag) bt Kazakhstan (Zhanat Aitimova, Aizada Seidan) 150-147; **compound mixed team:** India (Sheetal Devi, Toman Kumar) bt Indonesia (Teodora Ferelly, Firmansyah Arif) 153-146. **Recurve women:** Bhawna bt Phattharaphon Pattawaeo (Tha) 6-0; **compound men:** Toman Kumar bt Jonathon Mile (Aus) 146-142; **compound women:** Payal Nag bt Sheetal Devi 139-136; **Para recurve men:** Kholidin (Ina) bt Harvinder Singh 7-3; **W1 women:** Kim Ok Geum (Kor) bt Swati Chaudhary 7-3. **Bronze: Recurve women's doubles:** India (Bhawna, Rajshri Rathod) bt Japan (Miki Haruno, Onodera Asako) 6-0; **recurve mixed team:** India (Bhawna, Vijay Sundi) bt Slovenia (Ziva Lavrinc, Dejan Fabcic) 5-4 (19-17); **compound men:** Shyam Sunder Swami bt Rakesh Kumar 146-142; **W1 women:** Lee Eunhee (Kor) bt Anju Tanwar 6-2.

Bengaluru consigns Goa to its first defeat of the season

ISL

Sports Bureau

FC Goa suffered its first defeat of the Indian Super League season after Bengaluru FC consigned it to a 0-2 loss at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Fatorda on Saturday.

Veteran striker Sunil Chhetri netted early and substitute Namgyal Bhutia sealed the win for the visiting team in second-half stoppage time. BFC (14 points from seven matches) is fourth on the table but is level with topper Mumbai City FC, which has played a game less, while Goa (10 points from seven matches) is seventh. With Goa's loss, the Petr Kratky-coached Mumbai remains the only unbeaten side in the competition.

Bengaluru could not have asked for a better start as it opened the scoring in just the third minute.

Perfect start: Chhetri provided an early lead for Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

After a disorganised Goa defence failed to deal with an attacking move, Chhetri pounced on the second opportunity to find the bottom-left corner. Goa goalkeeper Hrithik Tiwari dived to his right, but could not prevent the visiting team from breaking the deadlock.

Bhutia, introduced in the 66th minute, settled the issue in the second minute of added time when he netted from a tight angle for his maiden goal in the top-tier league.

Goa had been denied by the woodwork in the first half as Pol Moreno's strike had crashed off the post, much to the relief of Bengaluru.

While Goa dominated possession and showed urgency in the second period, it could not keep its unbeaten record intact.

The result: FC Goa 0 lost to Bengaluru FC 2 (Sunil Chhetri 3, Namgyal Bhutia 90+2).

Dazzling display: Pankaj and Chitra proved unstoppable.

Memorable double for Advani and Chitra

Sports Bureau

Pankaj Advani played well under pressure to overcome Pushpender Singh's challenge and register a memorable double in his maiden pool Nationals at Ludhiana on Saturday. Advani won 11-9.

A little later at the adjacent table, fellow Bengalurean Chitra Magimairaj got past a determined Neena Praveen of Tamil Nadu 6-4 in the women's final to complete an impressive double.

Other results (third-place playoff): Men: Shahbaaz Adil Khan (PSPB) bt Aayush Kumar (Pun) 5-4; **Women:** Natasha Chethan (Kar) bt Anupama Ramachandran (TN) 4-3.

'Super sub' Ritwik helps Jamshedpur snatch a draw against Mohun Bagan

ISL

Sports Bureau

Ritwik Das scored in the final minute of second-half stoppage time as Jamshedpur FC snatched a 1-1 draw against Mohun Bagan Super Giant in the Indian Super League clash at the J.R.D Tata Sports Complex in Jamshedpur on Saturday.

Just when it looked like Bagan would return to winning ways, JFC 'super sub' Ritwik did just what the doctor ordered after being brought on in the 85th minute.

As the last throw of the dice, Raphael Messi Bouli sent in an accurate cross from the right flank, and an unmarked Ritwik was in the right place at the right time to head the ball home.

The visiting team had taken the lead in the 15th minute via Liston Colaco, who produced a piece of magic for one of the goals of the season so far.

Offered space to unleash a shot from outside the 18-yard box, Liston found the top-right corner after the ball went in off the far post.

Bagan had a huge chance to double the advantage when Robson Robinho picked out Jamie Maclaren, but the Australian forward scuffed his close-range effort.

Bidding to make a comeback, Jamshedpur made forays into the final third, and one such move involved a long-range attempt from Mohammed Sanan, which was saved by Vishal Kaith.

The away side could have sealed the win when Manvir Singh found Dimitri Petratos in the box, but the latter's hit was cleared off the line. It cost Bagan dearly in the end.

The result:

Jamshedpur FC 1 (Ritwik Das 90+5) drew with Mohun Bagan Super Giant 1 (Liston Colaco 15).

Northern Waves completes hat-trick by winning the Brave Dancer Plate

HYDERABAD: Trainer G. Shashikanth's filly Northern Waves, ridden by Ajay Kumar, completed a hat-trick by winning the Brave Dancer Plate, the main event of the Saturday's (Apr. 4) races. The winner is owned by Mr. V. Narendar Reddy. Jockey Ajay Kumar, who completed riding his 40th career winner astride Northern Waves, has now graduated to the ranks of a full-fledged jockey.

Jockey Mukesh Kumar scored a grand treble on the day.

1. CYNDY PLATE (1,800M): YUVRAJ (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Golden Aura (B. Nikhil) 2, Photograph (G. Naresh) 3 and Beech Wood (Kuldeep Jr.) 4. 4-3/4, 5-3/4 and 3. 1m 55.86s. ₹21 (w), 10, 10 and 28 (p), SHP: 44, THP: 29, FP: 66, Q: 46, Tanala: 436. Favourite: Mysore Pharoah. Owners: M/s. Sudarshan Singh Rathore Kanwar, Suchit Jayraj Shah & Rishiraj Singh Rathore. Trainer: D. Netto.

2. GALACTICA PLATE (1,200M): ARTHISHA (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Analysis (G. Naresh) 2, Cypress (Trevor) 3 and Farsiris (P. Sai K) 4. Not run: Nkalanzinzi. Neck, 1-1/2 and 2. 1m 14.15s. ₹28 (w), 12, 16 and 12 (p). SHP: 40, THP: 69, FP: 130, Q: 59, Tanala: 226. Favourite: Cypress. Owner: Mr. Prashant Datta Kankonkar. Trainer: Magan Singh.

3. GRACE HANOVER PLATE (DIV. I) (1,200M): MISS SMILEY ANGEL (A. Ashad Asbar) 1, N R I Triple Power (Mukesh K) 2, Sharanga (Trevor) 3 and Petra Act (D.S. Deora) 4. Short Head, 3-1/2 and 2-1/4. 1m 12.25s. ₹151 (w), 39, 17 and 15 (p). SHP: 41, THP: 63, FP: 881, Q: 217, Tanala: 1,641. Favourite: N R I Triple Power. Owner: Mr. V. Narendar Reddy. Trainer: G. Shashikanth.

4. SOLITAIRE PLATE (1,400M): CATCHME IF YOU CAN (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Bholi Punjaban (Mohit) 2, Clefairy (Trevor) 3 and Rival (Ajay K) 4. 1-1/4, Head and Neck. 1m 26.70s. ₹99 (w), 14, 32 and 22 (p). SHP: THP: FP: 4,693, Q: 1,687, Tanala: 29, 655. Favourite: N R I Range. Owners: Col. M.P. Singh & Mr. Shailendra Singh. Trainer: Magan Singh.

5. WINDSCALE PLATE (1,600M): GARFUNKLE (P. Trevor) 1, Toshiro (Mukesh K) 2, Northern Sky (Ashad Asbar) 3 and Excalibur (P. Ajeeth K) 4. 3-1/2, 2-3/4 and 1-1/2. 1m 38.84s. ₹76 (w), 17, 14 and 10 (p). SHP: 28, THP: 39, FP: 169, Q: 62, Tanala: 347. Favourite: Toshiro. Owners: Mrs. Anasuya Gupta & Mr. Abhiroop Gupta rep. A.G. Bloodstock LLP, Mr. Shantanu Sharma, Mr. Atul Singh & Mrs. Eeda Gujral Chopra. Trainer: Bharat Singh.

6. BRAVE DANCER PLATE (1,200M): NORTHERN WAVES (Ajay Kumar) 1, One N Only (Mukesh K) 2, Diablo (Ashad Asbar) 3 and Lashka (P. Ajeeth K) 4. 4-1/4, Neck and 2-1/2. 1m 11.05s. ₹20 (w), 15,15 and 15 (p). SHP: 55, THP: 55, FP: 63, Q: 35, Tanala: 209. Favourite: Northern Waves. Owner: Mr. V. Narendar Reddy. Trainer: G. Shashikanth.

7. GRACE HANOVER PLATE (DIV. II) (1,200M): GREIF (Neeraj Rawal) 1, Ayushman (Mukesh K) 2, Home Run (Kuldeep Sr.) 3 and Crimson Flame (Mohit) 4. Not run: Emerald Touch and Normui. 2-1/4, 3 and 3/4. 1m 12.49s. ₹23 (w), 10, 15 and 18 (p). SHP: 31, THP: 42, FP: 57, Q: 30, Tanala: 98. Favourite: Greif. Owners: Mr. S. Prasad Raju & Mr. Mukund Kakani. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.

8. NEXT MOVE PLATE (1,200M): AMERICAN AFFAIR (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 1, Deccan Ranger (Mukesh K) 2, Live Legend (Ajay K) 3 and Don Cherie (Md. Ekram) 4. Not run: Muaser. 1-1/4, Short Head and 1-1/4. 1m 15.02s. ₹47 (w), 14, 22 and 15 (p). SHP: 24, THP: 36, FP: 96, Q: 49, Tanala: 394. Favourite: Deccan Ranger. Owner: Mr. T. Rakesh Reddy. Trainer: Ananta Vatsalya.

Jackpot: 70%: ₹55,751 (9 tkts.), 30%: 5,120 (42 tkts.). Mini Jackpot: (i) 71,486 (c/o), (ii) 2,762 (43 tkts.). Treble: (i) 2,657 (12 tkts.), (ii) 13,134 (5 tkts.), (iii) 186 (367 tkts.).

Vishvanath upsets World champion Tashkenbay

ASIAN BOXING

Sports Bureau

Vishvanath Suresh upset reigning World champion and top-seeded Sanzhar Tashkenbay 5-0 to enter the semifinals of the Asian boxing championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on Saturday.

A former World youth champion and the current National champion in 50kg, Vishvanath used his speed and ring craft to beat the Kazakh and set up a last-four clash with Jordanian Huthaifa Eshish.

Narender Berwal (90+kg), Sachin Siwach (60kg) and Ankushita Boro (women's 65kg) also recorded wins in their respective quarterfinal clashes to secure places in the semifinals and ensure medals for India.

Narender will take on China's Asian Games and Worlds bronze medallist Bayikewuzi Danabieke.

Ankushita will next face Taiwan's Olympic bronze medallist Nien-Chin Chen.

The results (quarterfinals): Men: 50kg: Visvanath Suresh bt Sanzhar Tashkenbay (Kaz) 5-0; **60kg:** Sachin Siwach bt Cheng-Wei Lee (Tpe) 5-0; **65kg:** Abdulloh Madaminov (Uzb) bt Aditya Pratap Yadav 5-0; **90+kg:** Narender Berwal bt Orkhan Aghayev (UAE) 5-0. Men: **Women: 65kg:** Ankushita Boro by Laura Yessenkeldi (Kaz) 4-1.

Hero: Karl peels off on a celebratory run after scoring Bayern's winner. REUTERS

Bayern roars back with late goals to sink Freiburg

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
FREIBURG

Bundesliga leader Bayern Munich scored three times in the last nine minutes of the game to come from two goals behind and snatch a 3-2 victory at Freiburg on Saturday.

Tom Bischof fired in almost identical shots from the edge of the box to draw it level before Lennart Karl tapped in with almost the last kick of the game to earn three points for Bayern.

It tops the league on 73 points. Bayern travels to Real Madrid next week for the Champions League quarterfinal first leg.

Sensational shot

Freiburg, the only German team along with Bayern to still be in the German Cup as well as a European competition, went in front a minute into the second half when Johan Manzambi whipped a sensational shot from 25 metres out past keeper Manuel Neuer.

The hosts, who face Celta Vigo in the Europa League last eight next week, then twice came agonisingly close to a second goal as they dominated early on after the break, keeping 40-year-old Neuer busy.

The Bavarians were missing top scorer Harry Kane through injury, and substitute Michael Olise had their best chance after coming on early in the second half.

Freiburg doubled its lead in the 71st minute with a Lucas Hoeler volley after Neuer spilled a corner into his path.

But the visitors cut the deficit 10 minutes later when Bischof threaded a shot past keeper Noah Atubolu as the visitors upped the pressure late in the game.

He did it again in stoppage time before Karl scored the winner in the dying seconds.

In LaLiga, Real Madrid dropped further behind in the title race with a damaging loss to Mallorca.

Manu Morianes put the hosts in front in the 42nd minute before Real fought back with a Eder Militao strike in the 88th. However, one minute into added time, Vedat Muriqi scored Mallorca's winner.

The results: LaLiga: Real Sociedad 2 (Martin 30, Mendez 83) bt Levante 0; Mallorca 2 (Morianes 42, Muriqi 90+1) bt Real Madrid 1 (Militao 88).
Serie A: Sassuolo 2 (Garcia 50, Pinamonti 78) bt Cagliari 1 (Esposito 30-pen).
Bundesliga: Freiburg 2 (Manzambi 46, Hoeler 71) lost to Bayern Munich 3 (Bischof 81, 90+2, Karl 90+9); Werder Bremen 1 (Musah 90+4) lost to RB Leipzig 2 (Nusa 15, Romulo 52); Hoffenheim 1 (Asllani 23) lost to Mainz 2 (Tietz 13, 79); Hamburg 1 (Koenigsdoerffer 60) drew with Augsburg 1 (Chaves 22); Bayer Leverkusen 6 (Grimaldo 30-pen, 44, Schick 53-pen, Tapsoba 68, Maza 73, Tillman 90+6) bt Wolfsburg 3 (Wind 16, Maehle 31, Eriksen 38-pen); Borussia M'Gladbach 2 (Mohya 16, Honorat 74) drew with Heidenheim 2 (Mainka 26, Busch 63).
On Friday: LaLiga: Rayo Vallecano 1 (Nteka 74) bt Elche 0.

Certainty should win the Kamareddy Plate

HYDERABAD: The four-year-old filly Certainty, who is unbeaten in her last three starts, should continue her winning streak by claiming the Kamareddy Plate, the main event of the concluding day's races to be held here on Sunday (Apr. 5).

1 CIRCAR PLATE (1,100m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2.55 p.m.: 1. Swiss Girl (9) Md. Ekram 60.5, 2. Aditya (4) Rafique Sk. 58.5, 3. Nyanza (10) Surya Prakash 58, 4. Red Hot Punch (2) P. Ajeeth K 57, 5. Roxxane (1) Mukesh K 55.5, 6. Ek (13) P. Sai K 55, 7. Divine Faith (14) Neeraj 52.5, 8. Glimmer Of Hope (5) Gaurav 52.5, 9. Fortune Art (12) B. Nikhil 51, 10. Golden Inzio (6) Kuldeep Jr. 51, 11. Golden Unicorn (8) Ashad Asbar 51, 12. Rate Of Interest (7) G. Naresh 51, 13. Sugriva (3) Santosh Raj 51 and 14. Midnight Beauty (11) Ajay K 50.
1. EK,
2. RED HOT PUNCH,
3. DIVINE FAITH

2 KINNERASANI PLATE (Div. I) (1,100m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II), 3.20: 1. Cosmic Gift (9) Trevor 56, 2. Modin (7) P. Ajeeth K 56,3. Svalpaviryasakthi (3) Md. Ismail 56, 4. Vyom (1) Mukesh 56, 5. Belgium Waffle (4) Mohit 54.5, 6. Cuartetera (6) Kuldeep Sr. 54.5, 7. Fiore (2) G. Naresh 54.5, 8. Mazagran (5) Ashad Asbar 54.5 and 9. She's A Bomb (8) P. Sai K 54.5.
1. MODIN,
2. COSMIC GIFT,
3. VYOM

3 KINNERASANI PLATE (Div. II) (1,100m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) 3.45: 1. Diamond King (2) Gaurav 56, 2. Rajendra (4) P. Sai K 56, 3. Vinfast (6) Neeraj 56, 4. Bayone (3) Rafique Sk. 54.5, 5. Gacchanmanasvin (7) Md. Ismail 54.5, 6. N R I Mega Power (8) Mukesh K 54.5, 7. Quattro (5) Ashad Asbar 54.5 and 8. Speedy Queen (1) Surya Prakash 54.5.
1. QUATTRO,
2. VINFAST,
3. N R I MEGA POWER

4 ROCK HEAVEN PLATE (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 4.15: 1. One Nation (8) Neeraj 60, 2. Sunny Day (10) P. Ajeeth K 60, 3. Only My Way (13) P. Sai K 59, 4. Real Thalaivaa (4) Mohit 58.5, 5. Crimson Rose (2) Rafique Sk. 57, 6. Feel The Magic (1) Mukesh K 56.5, 7. Aquatone (9) Trevor 54.5, 8. Sadiya (6) Kuldeep Sr. 54, 9. Beast Master (5) Ashad Asbar 53.5, 10. Caraxes (3) Uday Kiran 51, 11. American Gangster (12) Ajay K 50.5, 12. See My Attitude (11) Surya Prakash 50.5 and 13. Rani Ruckus (7) B. Nikhil 50.
1. AQUATONE,
2. FEEL THE MAGIC,
3. REAL THALAIVAA

5 RECOMMENDER PLATE (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 4.45: 1. China Town (1) P. Ajeeth K 60, 2. Armstrong (2) Md. Ekram 57.5, 3. Federer (3) Rafique Sk. 56.5, 4. Sangreal (7) Ajay K 55.5, 5. Mystical Dawn (5) Kuldeep Jr. 53.5, 6. Foxy Girl (8) P. Sai K 52, 7. Special Star (11) Neeraj 52, 8. Fly Tothe Stars (6) Uday Kiran 51.5, 9. Pride Aside (9) B. Nikhil 51, 10. Shoolin (4) D.S. Deora 50.5 and 11. Tiger Ruby (10) Surya Prakash 50.
1. SPECIAL STAR,
2. MYSTICAL DAWN,
3. FOXY GIRL

6 KAMAREDDY PLATE (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 60 to 85 (Cat. II), 5.15: 1. Proud Mary (2) G. Naresh 60, 2. Brooklyn Beauty (1) Mohit 56, 3. She Can (---), 4. Arabeska (7) P. Ajeeth K 52.5, 5. Calistoga (13) Ashad Asbar 52.5, 6. Kings Best (9) Santosh Raj 51, 7. Shadow Fax (10) Surya Prakash 51, 8. Star Forever (12) Ajay K 51, 9. Struass (11) D.S. Deora 51, 10. Certanity (4) Kuldeep Sr. 50.5, 11. Exclusive Black (3) Md. Ekram 50.5, 12. Golden Gazelle (8) Kuldeep Jr. 50.5, 13. Leather Back (5) Rafique Sk. 50.5 and 14. Racing Ruler (6) Neeraj 50.5.
1. CERTANITY,
2. RACING RULER,
3. EXCLUSIVE BLACK

7 ARISTOCRAT PLATE (1,200m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 5,45: 1. Linda (10) P. Ajeeth K 60, 2. Briar Ridge (13) P. Sai K 59.5, 3. Sopranos (2) Kuldeep Sr. 59.5, 4. Cosmico (5) Mukesh K 59, 5. Inderdhanush (14) Md. Ekram 58, 6. Winning Attitude (3) Santosh Raj 58, 7. Lego (11) Ashad Asbar 57.5, 8. N R I Skypower (8) B. Nikhil 57.5, 9. Trust Me (12) G. Naresh 56, 10. Windsor (1) Surya Prakash 55, 11. Smart Boy (6) B.R. Kumar 54.5, 12. Natu Natu (4) Ajay K 54, 13. Silver Lining (7) Gaurav 54 and 14. Sucker Punch (9) Rafique Sk. 51.5.
1. LEGO,
2. NATU NATU,
3. SMART BOY

8 KUNTALA PLATE (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III), 6.15: 1. Bold Indian (1) Mukesh K 61, 2. Hoping High (4) Mohit 61, 3. Photograph (9) G. Naresh 61, 4. Screenshot (8) Santosh Raj 61, 5. Char Ek Char (5) Surya Prakash 60, 6. Deccan Ranger (3) Kuldeep Sr. 60, 7. Battle On (10) Ajay K 55.5, 8. D Extreme (6) Md. Ismail 55.5, 9. Iconic Star (2) Rafique Sk. 52.5 and 10. Blue Brigade (7) P. Sai K 50.
1. DECCAN RANGER,
2. BOLD INDIAN,
3. SCREENSHOT

Day's Best: **CERTANITY**
Jackpot: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.
Mini Jackpot: (i) 2, 3, 4 & 5, (ii) 5, 6, 7 & 8.
Treble: (i) 1, 2 & 3, (ii) 3, 4 & 5, (iii) 6, 7 & 8.
Tanala: All races.

Trungelliti is oldest first-time ATP finalist

Reuters
MARRAKESH

Argentina's 36-year-old Marco Trungelliti became the oldest first-time Tour-level finalist in the Open Era after beating the top seed at the Grand Prix Hassan II semifinals on Saturday.

Trungelliti upset Italy's defending champion Luciano Darderi 6-4, 7-6(2) to break the previous record held by Victor Estrella Burgos of the Dominican Republic, who reached his first final aged 34 years in 2015.

Darderi was only six-years-old when Trungelliti turned pro in 2008.